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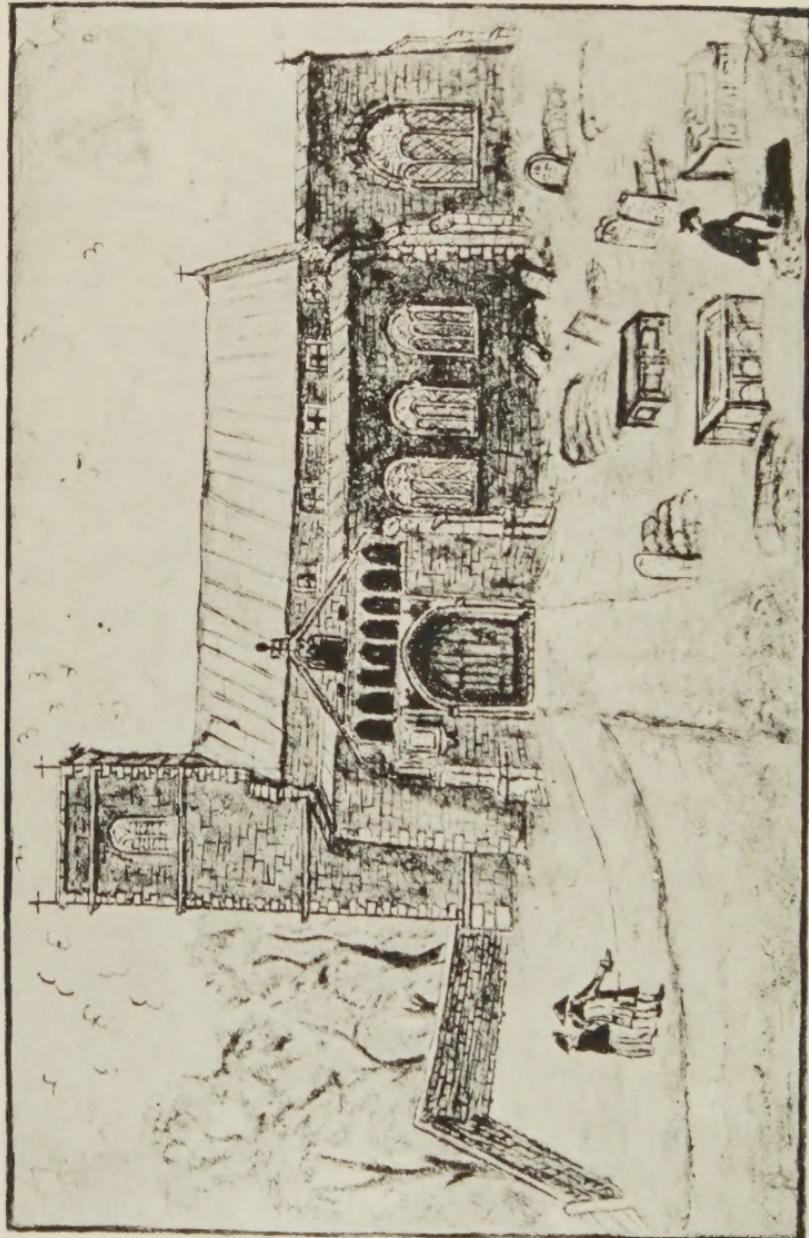
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THE DIARY
OF A
COUNTRY PARSON

VOLUME III



WESTON LONGUEVILLE CHURCH, NORFOLK

By 'Nephew Bill' 1780

THE DIARY
OF A
COUNTRY PARSON

The Reverend James Woodforde

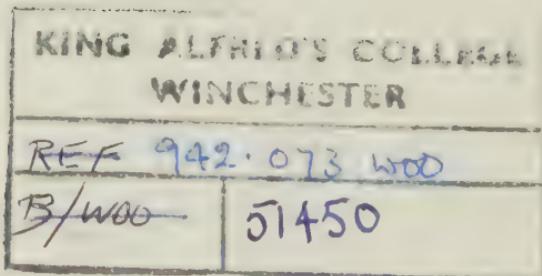
EDITED BY
JOHN BERESFORD

VOLUME III
1788-1792

OXFORD
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

Oxford University Press, Ely House, London W.1

GLASGOW NEW YORK TORONTO MELBOURNE WELLINGTON
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FIRST PUBLISHED 1927
REPRINTED LITHOGRAPHICALLY IN GREAT BRITAIN
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD
BY VIVIAN RIDLER
PRINTER TO THE UNIVERSITY
1968

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INTRODUCTION

‘THIS I thought deserving of notice, even in so trifling a book as this is.’ Thus Parson Woodforde writes in his Diary for November 27, 1789, about a peculiar cure for the cramp prescribed by Brother John. ‘So trifling a book’ the Diary seemed to its author in 1789: and now, in 1927, Parson Woodforde has made friends for himself in all the continents of the world. So great a power have simplicity and truth.

This, the third volume of the Diary, certainly maintains, if, indeed, it does not surpass, the interest of the first and the second: on the whole I think this volume is richer both in human and historical significance. On the human side, among many notable things, there is the moving account of the death of Juliana; there is the story unforgettable in its humour—sad though the end is, with the plain uncoloured coffin and the hearse and four horses—of Betsy Davy’s profligate lover, Mr. Walker; there is the long visit of Brother John, his wife, and Mrs. Richard Clarke to Weston Parsonage, Brother John still genial enough, though no longer selfishly so: on the contrary most thoughtful, and on occasion almost poetical, gathering primroses in January in the Parsonage garden, but also very jovial at the Tithe Audit dinner, and with the jolly Tars at Yarmouth; there is the smuggling affair which caused Parson Woodforde so much anxiety, an anxiety the reader is compelled to share until it fortunately all blows over, and the secret purchases begin again; there is the illness of Mrs. Custance, so described that one turns the pages feverishly to make sure that this best of friends does not die; and later there is the melancholy decision of the Custances to go to Bath for an indefinite

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period : Nancy just sees the coach and four whirl by on that Sunday morning of October 7, 1792, Parson Woodforde listens to the sound, and we too, with sinking hearts, still hear the wheels rumbling away into the distance. ‘ It made us quite low all the whole Day.’

On the historical side, the present volume has a particular interest, for it covers the period in which the French Revolution begins its course, and attains nearly its maximum of poetry and terror.¹ How does the French Revolution affect Parson Woodforde ? At first hardly a ripple of the wave reaches him. Two or three years pass : it is plain that Europe is on the edge of a whirlpool, and that England is feeling the current even in its remote country parsonages.

It took ten days for the news of the fall of the Bastille (July 14, 1789) to reach Parson Woodforde. On July 24th he was staying in Somerset with Sister Pounsett and having ‘ breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole ’, he bought an extra large crab from a travelling fisherman. Then the Bath paper arrived with news of a ‘ very great Rebellion in France : ’ exciting information, of course, but not worthy of special comment. Far worthier of comment was that ‘ Dies Memorabilis ’ of August 4th following, when George III and the Queen and the Royal Princesses visited Lord Digby at Sherborne Park. It is a wonderful description. Yes, we agree with Parson Woodforde that it was a memorable day, memorable not least because, thereby, we see in a flash how blessed has been the political evolution of England. At a time when all France is in ferment, when the fabric of government is being built all over again

¹ In order that the reader may appreciate the significance of the events referred to by Parson Woodforde I have endeavoured to remind him in footnotes of the progress of the Revolution. For the editorial method generally see pp. xiii, xiv of vol. ii.

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on untried foundations, when flames and smoke envelop the castles of the French nobility, thousands of peaceful Dorset and Somerset folk pay charming homage in Lord Digby's park to George III, who has now become one of the most popular Kings of England.¹

On October 16, 1789, Parson Woodforde is back at Weston Parsonage : it is ten days since the march of the Paris mob to Versailles, followed by the enforced removal of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette to the French capital. Parson Woodforde reads the news, and begins to realize its significance—‘ all anarchy and confusion.’

Then there is a pause. For nearly two years we hear nothing more of the French Revolution : it is a period of relative quiescence ; a great experiment in government is being made ; Louis XVI appears to accept the new situation, but his position is that of the titular head of a state who is in chains. This is the extraordinary result of the Revolution—‘ Liberty, Equality, Fraternity ’ for all men except the King. He tries to escape to Varennes (June 21, 1791), and Parson Woodforde realizes that the revolutionary volcano is again in eruption. A few weeks pass, and Parson Woodforde feels that England itself is experiencing violent tremors. There are dreadful anti-revolution riots at Birmingham (July 14–18, 1791) : ‘ shocking Accounts on the Papers ’ he enters on July 21, and proceeds graphically to summarize the news.

Again there is a pause, but this time of less than a year. In April, 1792, France declares war on Austria and Prussia. Meanwhile Paine’s *Rights of Man* has been circulating throughout England. It is time for the Government to intervene, and to prevent any recurrence of the Birming-

¹ See Parson Woodforde’s touching prayer of thanksgiving on March 8, 1789, for the King’s recovery from his recent illness, and the footnote to page 64.

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ham riots on the one hand, or disturbances of seditious intention on the other. From May, 1792, onward the placid course of the Diary is increasingly interspersed with references to the outside world of fact and rumour—uneasy, restless, full of evil omen. We already see England being dragged relentlessly towards the field of European conflict, which is to last for almost a generation.

But though Parson Woodforde is inevitably affected by these world events, the tenor of his way is essentially the same. The tranquillity of Weston Parsonage is really disturbed by these things very little indeed. It is natural and right that it should be so. Violence and revolution and war subside in the end; nor during their actual course can they do more than impede the permanent march of humanity. In the Great War of 1914–18 the French and Belgian peasants continued to plough their fields far within the battle areas, and through all the agony of that terrible time they presented the touching spectacle of peace ‘subsisting at the heart of endless agitation’.

The historian of society and economic development will find a great deal to interest him in the present volume of the Diary. He will find a picturesque reference to one of the early Friendly Societies, the Weston Village Purse Club, a herald of that great movement of working-class thrift which has since assumed such marvellous proportions of beneficent and widely dispersed wealth.¹ He will note the small amount of Parson Woodforde’s flour bill for the year, and on the other hand the immense consumption of meat.² He will see a vivid illustration and consequence of the Laws of Settlement.³ He will obtain a glimpse of the economy of an eighteenth-century Poor

¹ See pp. 192 and 331–2.

² See pp. 231–2.

³ See pp. 303–4.

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House.¹ He will mark the immense number of servants employed by the upper and middle classes of society, how Parsons Woodforde, Du Quesne, and Jeanes each employed some five outdoor and indoor servants, while the number of servants employed by such people as the Custances, Durrants, and Townshends must have represented no inconsiderable percentage of the village population. To the social significance of the high figures of employment in domestic service during a slightly later period (1820–50) Dr. Clapham has lately directed attention.² Certain it is that no adequate notion of social welfare can be attained unless we continually realize the existence of this relatively sheltered, comfortable, and educated portion of the population.³

Finally the Woodforde Diary presents to our view the undistorted picture of actual life: of birth, of marriage, and of death, of happiness and grief, of selfishness and the continual fount of charity, of passing storm and the endless joy of peace.

JOHN BERESFORD.

86 LANSDOWNE ROAD,
HOLLAND PARK, W. II.
February 20, 1927.

I have to thank my friend Dr. R. E. H. Woodforde, of Ashwell, Baldock, Herts., the owner of the MS. of the Diary, for the sketch painted by Nephew Bill of Weston

¹ See pp. 383–4.

² See his just published *Economic History of Modern Britain: the Early Railway Age 1820–50*, pp. 73–4 and 567–70. Published by the Cambridge University Press.

³ From the 1921 Census (Great Britain) it appears that those engaged in ‘private personal service’ numbered 1,232,000; in other words domestic service is the greatest individual ‘industry’, employing more persons than even the mines or agriculture.

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Church, and for the portraits in profile of Brother John, and Nancy ; Lord Ailwyn, of Honingham Hall, Norfolk, for the beautiful portrait of his ancestral relative Mr. Charles Townshend, afterwards the first Lord Bayning ; Mr. Louis Du Cane, of Fittleworth House, Sussex, for the portrait of Parson Du Quesne ; Lady Alfred Douglas, daughter of the late Colonel Custance, for the portrait of her great-grandfather Hambleton Custance, and Mr. E. M. Calvert, 11 Queen Street, Norwich, for help in obtaining the photograph.

I should like to add how grateful I should be if those who possess portraits of ancestral persons mentioned in the Diary would send me copies, together with such notes as would be helpful : if there are no portraits then notes alone. Should the material forthcoming justify it, it would be pleasant to supplement the final volume of the Diary in that way. The final volume will probably be the fifth.

Stillest streams

*Oft water fairest meadows, and the bird,
That flutters least, is longest on the wing.*

*So life glides smoothly and by stealth away.
More golden than that age of fabled gold
Renown'd in ancient song ; not vex'd with care
Or stained with guilt, beneficent, approv'd
Of God and man, and peaceful in its end.*

COWPER, *The Task*, Book VI.

PART II (*continued*)

WESTON LONGEVILLE, NORFOLK

The Diary

1788

Jan^{ry} 1st. . . Mr. Barker of Dereham, Bookseller, called on me about 2 o'clock, paid him a Bill of o. 8. 6. I asked him to stay and dine with us which he did.

Jan^{ry} 3. I breakfasted, dined, &c. &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. To John Piper, Gardner, for 3 Days nailing and pruning my Fruit Trees, himself and Man Tom Rudd at 1^s/0^d each per Day and board paid him—o. 6. 0. To Ditto to spend at the Inn where they slept—gave o. 1. 0. To Ditto—for 2 Yew Trees at 1^s/0^d each pd. o. 2. 0.

Jan^{ry} 4. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mrs. Custance with her 2 Daughters Fanny and Emily made us a morning visit and stayed some time. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy—nothing lost.

Jan^{ry} 5. . . Sent Ben to Norwich this morning on Horseback after News Papers &c. he returned home to Dinner. Nancy had a Letter brought by Ben from her Aunt John Woodforde of Castle Cary—Somerset in which was mentioned the Death of Widow Coop and Daughter in a violent Fever—my Tenant—Robin Shoard who married the Daughter is now a Widower with six small Children—Mrs. Rich^d Clarke not yet married.

Jan^{ry} 6. . . I don't know that I ever saw so much water on the Lands at this time of the year, as at present.

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Jan^{ry} 7. . . . Made Nancy her annual Present of—10.0.0.

Also for a fat Pigg—gave her—2. 0. 3. She also paid me out of the above for things paid for me in the last year 1. 18. 6. Paid my Servants their wages this morning. To my Maid Betty Dade pd 5. 5. 0. To my Maid Nancy Kaye pd 5. 5. 0. To my Farming Man Ben. Leggatt pd 10. 0. 0. To my Footman Brett. Scurl pd. 8. 0. 0. To my Yard Boy, Charles Crossley, for 3 Quarters of a Years Wages pd 0. 15. 9.

Jan^{ry} 8. . . . Lent John Norton my little Market Cart to go to Norwich with a young Woman.—Cart out all Night.

Jan^{ry}. 9. . . . Was under very disagreeable apprehensions respecting my Health this morning, on some very unpromising Symptones—was very uneasy. High Winds, with much Rain and very cold all the Day long—tho' the Barometer was as high as to the Number—29 = 18—I think it very remarkable. John Norton did not bring home my Cart till early this Morning—was at Cossey all Night.

Jan^{ry}. 10. . . . This Evening was much easier and better—I eat no Meat all Day and very little yesterday.

Jan^{ry}. 12. . . . Could not sleep very well last night—but very well. Ben went early this morning to Norwich with 10 Coomb of Barley to sell for me—Briton went with him, as I want several things to be brought back—particularly a large sofa from my upholsterer Mr. Horth &c. My Study, Kitchen, and back Kitchen Chimnies swept this Morning by Holland. Gave Holland's Son Franck Xmas Box 0. 1. 0. My Servants returned from Norwich about 5 o'clock brought home all things safe and well and sold my Barley to Mr. Bloome who succeeded Mr. Locke. No price set or Money sent for the Barley, as Ben could not speak to Mr. Bloome but am to have the best price. Nancy was highly

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pleased with the new Sofa—It is covered with Crimson Check and Mohogany Feet. Am to give Mr. Horth for the same—5. 5. 0. Hambleton Custance with his Brother George made us a Morning Visit—Hambleton rode his little Hobby here and George walked.

Janry. 13. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston C. Mrs. Custance and her 2 eldest sons at Church, but not Mr. Custance, he being detained on Justice business, having had a Felon by name Wakefield of Booton brought to him this Aft. on very great suspicion of his being guilty of the Murder of one Thos. Twaites of Honingham, when a great many Poachers were at Mr. Townshends about 3 years ago, and at which time the above poor old man was murdered by having his skull fractured by a Bludgeon. The above Wakefield was impeached by an Accomplice one Beales who was of their Party, and is now in the Castle at Norwich as one of the Gang. It is also reported that he has impeached about ten more of the said gang.¹

Janry. 14. . . . Sent Briton early to Foulsham this Morning to enquire after Mrs. Davy and Daughter he returned about 3 o'clock, quite muzzed by Liquor—it being very cold with Snow—Mrs. Davy gave him an Extraordinary glass of Liquor, and Briton not being used to drink, it made him quite flighty. Mrs. Davy and Betsy have been both very ill, the latter so very ill at present, that there are but small hopes of her recovery, as she is supposed to be in a decline.

¹ Readers of *The Village Labourer*, 1760–1832, pp. 163–75 and p. 214, by J. L. and Barbara Hammond, might form the conclusion that all poachers were heroes—‘the best and bravest blood’ in the village. It is as well to remember that History is not a Fabian Tract, and that if some poachers were ‘the best and bravest’, others, on occasion, murdered poor old men.

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Janry. 19. . . . Sent Ben early to Norwich after News &c. on horseback. Sent Briton after breakfast to Mr. Bodhams at Mattishall to enquire after him, he having been very ill. To 2 Pints of Butter sold to Mr. Cary recd. o. 1. 10. Ben recd. for me for Barley 10 Coomb lately sent to Mr. Bloome at 10^s/6^d. 5. 5. 0. Out of which he paid Mr. Bloome for Coal had of him 3 Chldrn and $\frac{1}{2}$ 4. 19. 0. Briton returned before Dinner with an account that Mr. Bodham had been most dangerously ill with an inflammation in his Bowels, but is now something better and the greatest danger over.

Janry. 21. . . . I went to Church about 2 o'clock this afternoon and buried poor old Mary Clarke of this Parish aged 67. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their 3 eldest Sons drank Coffee and Tea with us this afternoon and stayed till 8. After Tea we got to Commerce, played one Pool and Master George Custance got it—he won o. 3. 6. It was only a sixpenny Pool—I lost—o. 0. 6. I continued, thank God, very well, all the day long.

Janry. 23. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. After breakfast I took a Walk to Weston House and spent an Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Children—as Hambleton and George Custance go to School to Morrow Morning I gave each of them half a Crown—o. 5. 0. I returned home to dinner, tho' pressed to dine at Weston H. Called at poor old Tom Carr's who is ill on my return.

Janry. 24. . . . Soon after breakfast I walked out with my Dogs as a Hare was found sitting by John Baker Jun^r in Weston Great Field, we killed it very soon. Gave John Baker for finding it o. 1. 0. To one Bagshaw for 5 Yards of black Velveret for Breeches at 4^s/0^d per Yard pd 1. 0. 0. The above is sufficient for two Pair of

Breeches. To 2 pair of Coarse ribbed worsted Stockings—o. 4. 0. Mr. Jeanes made us a Morning Visit. Recd. of Cary for 2 Pints and $\frac{1}{2}$ Butter at 10^d—o. 2. 1. To $\frac{1}{2}$ p. of 3^d Thread of Bagshaw—pd. o. 2. 0

Janry. 25. . . . Sent the Hare I killed yesterday to Mr. Bodham by Briton. Of Nancy for not being below Stairs for 2 Mornings before 10 o'clock, forfeit each time 6^d recd. o. 1. 0. Briton returned before Dinner and informed us that Mr. Bodham continued still very indifferent.

Janry. 28. . . . Nancy promised Mrs. Custance Yesterday that she intended walking up to Weston House this Morn' but Mrs. Custance this morning sent word that her youngest son John was so ill, that she could not receive any Company as yet—am very sorry for the little Boy. . . .

Janry. 29. . . . Sent Briton to Mr. Jeanes's this Morning to desire they would excuse our dining with them today but they sent word back, that we must come, and they sent their Carriage directly after Nancy, so that we were obliged to go to prevent their being angry. Nancy went in their Carriage and I mounted my Mare and attended her—we got there very well, between 2 and 3 o'clock—and returned as we went, the Evening being dark, about 6 o'clock home again. There was no other Company, we therefore dined and spent the afternoon only with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes. We had for Dinner, some salt fish, a small Loin of Pork boiled, some Mutton Stakes, a fine Turkey rosted, a Cranberry Pudding and Mince Pies. After Dinner we drank Mrs. Jeanes's Mothers Health, Mrs. Springer, this being her Birth-Day. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes were both pleased at our going. Their Daughter is much altered for the better. Tho' we were rather hurried

to day, it was however very agreeable upon the whole.

Mr. Custance's little Boy, John, much better to day.

Jan. 30. . . . To a poor old Man, a stranger, gave—o. o. 1.

Jan. 31. . . . About Noon, Mr. and Mrs. Bodham, with

Mrs. B—ms. Sister, a Mrs. Balls of Catfield, came to our House stayed about an Hour with us and then returned back. Mr. Bodham looked very well, having been so lately very dangerously ill—He drank some white Wine and Water and eat dried toast. Mrs. Balls with Mrs. Bodham eat some cold Goose and drank some Porter here. They could not partake of a Family [Dinner] with us as the Afternoons were so short and likewise no Moon.

Feb. 1. . . . Mr. Carter of Ringland sent me a Note this Morn' before breakfast, to desire my Sentiments on a particular Question relating to the tolling of a Bell for a Child that died without being baptised at its decease, at any time from thence to its being interred and at the putting of it into the ground. I sent an Answer back to Mr. Carter, that as the Funeral Service could not be read over it, the tolling of the Bell at any time to be inadmissible. Recd. of Mr. Cary for 2 Pints of Butter at 10^d—o. 1. 8. Sent Briton down to Cantrells at Lenwade Bridge to send me some Wine and some Porter on Monday.

Feb. 2. Sent Briton to Norwich with my little Cart this Morn.' after News, and several other odd things. He returned between 4 and 5 this afternoon and brought with him a long Letter for Nancy from her Sister Juliana, poor thing she has been ill very lately, but now something better—all Friends besides very well.

Febry. 6. . . . Very busy all the Morning being very fine Weather in trimming up my young Scotch Firs.

Feb. 7. . . . Mr. Jeanes made us a long morning Visit,

and during his being with us Mrs. Custance called on us and stayed about an Hour with us. To one Coxford of Felthorp, Yesterday, for a Dozen of Brooms—paid him as usual o. 2. 6. To a poor Woman, disordered in mind, gave o. o. 6. Mr. Jeanes, told us this morning, that Mrs. Jeanes's Mother was married to one Mr. Lock, that very Day when we last dined with him at Witchingham. Mr. Lock is a Man of Fortune in Hampshire and keeps Horses.

Feb. 11. . . . Nancy not being below Stairs this morning before the clock had done striking 10 forfeited—o. o. 6.

Feb. 14. . . . This being Valentines Day, I had a good many Children of my Parish called on me, to each of whom, gave (as usual) one penny, in all o. 3. 1.

Feb. 18. . . . As soon as we were below stairs we heard of the Death of old Mrs. Peachman, Mr. Peachmans Mother, she died in the Night—Hope her removal is a happy one.

Feb. 20. . . . I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Morning mostly fair and fine tho' the Barometer was down to 28 = 17—lower much than of late. Mr. Custance spent an Hour with us this Morning. Mr. Peachman called on me this afternoon about my burying his Mother on Friday next—He told us that his Mother was in her 83rd Year, that she went off very suddenly but with the Greatest Ease. That she had been below stairs the Day she dyed, that on her return to her Chamber she dyed directly. Poor old Mrs. Peachman had been all her life a very industrious, careful and I believe very good Woman. She never knew a Days sickness—had kept in the former Part of her life, Norwich Market twice in a week, for thirty Years together.

Feb. 22. . . . Between 3 and 4 this Afternoon I walked to

Weston Church and buried poor old Mrs. Peachman aged 83 years. I met the Corpse at my great gate and walked before it in my gown all the way to Church. I had a black Silk-band and a pair of white Gloves : a great Number of People attended poor old Mrs. Peachman to the Grave—Mr. and Mrs. Peachman, Miss Peachman, Mrs. Hawkins and her Son in Law Mr. Bailey, the principal Mourners.

Feb. 25. . . . Killed a fat Pigg this morning which weighed 13^{st.} 7^{lb.} Received of John Norton for 1 Bshl of Oats o. 2. 0.

Feb. 26. . . . Nancy busy most of the Morning in making some black-Puddings after the old Somerset way.

Feb. 28. . . . My Barber, Brown, from Norwich, brought me a New Wig this morning. Sent Briton this Morning to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham with some of our black Puddings. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Son Edmund, Mr. Taswell of Aylsham and his Nephew Willm. Taswell. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us. We returned home to Tea, there being no Moon. Recd. for 2 Pints and $\frac{1}{2}$ Butter of Mr. Cary—o. 2. 1.

Feb. 29. . . . Mr. Taswell sent early to me this morning that he would take a Family Dinner with us to day and desired us to send to Mr. Custance that they might not wait dinner for him. He went from Weston House early this morning to go to Aylsham to read Prayers there to day being Friday. At 11 o'clock this Morning I sent Briton to Weston House to let them know that Mr. Taswell was to take a Family Dinner with us to day, Briton returned pretty soon and informed us that Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Son and Master Taswell would also come and

partake of the Family Dinner, and they sent us some Fish, a wild Duck and a Sallad. It occasioned rather a Bustle in our House but we did as well as we could—We had not a bit of White bread in House, no Tarts whatever, and this Week gave no Order whatever to my Butcher for Meat, as I killed a Pigg this Week. We soon baked some white bread and some Tartlets and made the best shift we could on the whole. About 3 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Son, Mr. Taswell and Nephew arrived and they dined, drank Coffee, and Tea and returned home about 7 o'clock this Evening to Weston House. Mr. Taswell with his Servant came here a little time before the other Company on horseback from Aylsham, he dressed himself at my House. We gave the Company for Dinner some Fish and Oyster Sauce, a nice Piece of Boiled Beef, a fine Neck of Pork rosted and Apple Sauce, some hashed Turkey, Mutton Stakes, Sallad &c. a wild Duck rosted, fryed Rabbits, a plumb Pudding and some Tartlets. Desert, some Olives, Nutts, Almonds, and Raisins and Apples. The whole Company were pleased with their Dinner &c. Considering we had not above 3 Hours notice of their coming we did very well in that short time. All of us were rather hurried on the Occasion.

March 1. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich after News and Letters this Morn. A great deal of Rain fell in the Night, I think I never knew the Lands so wet as they appear now. Ben returned about 4 o'clock this Afternoon and he brought me a Letter from my Sister Pounsett, in w^{ch} it was mentioned that Nancy's Sister Juliana was, it was much feared, in a decline, on Account of her lately having had the Measles and catching cold after, which has affected her Lungs, she has

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been bled 7 Times and is now with my Sister Pounsett at Cole. The above bad account of Nancy's Sister made her very low.

March 3. . . . About Noon, Mrs. Davy, and Daughter Betsy, with a Mrs. Thorne of Foulsham a Shopkeeper, at whose House Mrs. Davy and Betsy lodge, called here in a one horse Chaise from Mattishall to Foulsham and stayed with us till after 2 o'clock, but could not dine with us, however, they eat some cold Turkey, cold rost Pork, Tarts and Tartlets, and drank some Porter and some Beer—soon after two they got into their Chaise and were off for Foulsham. Poor Betsy Davy looked very bad indeed, much worse than when she was at my House last. Most People, am sorry to say, think her in great danger.

March 4. . . . At Harry Baker's Shop for $\frac{1}{4}$ p^d of Tobacco p^d o. o. 8.

March 8. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart after News and other things. Nancy sent by him a long Letter to her Sister. Briton returned home by 4 o'clock this afternoon. Gave my 2 Maids a p^d of Souchong Tea between them this Evening, which Briton brought from Norwich.

March 11. . . . Mr. Custance's Servant brought me a Letter this Evening from my Brother Heighes, he having been at Norwich to day, in which he presses us much to come into the Country this Summer, his Daughter Juliana being very ill, and apprehended to be in a decline, and is very desirous of seeing her Sister, but she is far from being able at present to take such a journey and being so lame as unable to walk without holding. Very bitter cold all the day long and severe frost tho' fair. I dont know when the cold Weather affected me more than it has this very day. My Bro-

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thers Letter affected Nancy very much, made her quite low.

March 13. . . . Nancy took a ride out this morning in her little Cart, for about 2 Hours and then returned home.

March 15. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich with a sample of Wheat to shew, and likewise to get the News Papers &c. I sent a very long letter to my Sister Pounsett by Ben and in it a Recipe from Dr. Buchan for Juliana Woodforde, Nancys Sister, for her bad Cough. Ben returned to dinner, he sold my Wheat for 23^s/6^d per Coomb to Mr. Bloome of Trowse Mill near Norwich. I made a bet with Nancy on Wednesday last of 2^s/6^d, that it rained before 8 o'clock this Evening which it did not till about 7 this Evening, as she lost her bet on so near gaining it, I not only omitted receiving the same, but gave her besides 0. 2. 6.

March 16. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church this morning but complained much of the cold—it being most cutting. I never (I think) found the Wind more piercing, it was directly East, and almost stopped my breath on going to Church. It affected me also in my Spirits. The late cold Easterly Winds which we have had and still prevail, greatly unhinge my animal Frame.

March 17. . . . Colder if anything than Yesterday with strong Easterly Winds and a very hard Frost—It froze a Glass of Water above Stairs between breakfast and Dinner, part of which I drank this Morning after getting up and washing myself. Mr. Custance's House all in a Hurry, on Account of the Itch being among some of the Servants—supposed brought by the Boy Downing.

March 18. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning with 10

Coomb of Wheat to Trowse Mills about a mile beyond Norwich to Mr. Bloome sold to him last Saturday. At 11 o'clock this morning I walked to Weston Church and married by Licence one John Reddy and Sarah Bush—both very young. He is a young Tar from Lynn and sails for Greenland on Saturday next. Received for marrying them 0. 10. 6. Ben returned home about 4 o'clock this afternoon with $\frac{1}{2}$ Chldrn. of Coal from Mr. Bloome.

March 19. . . . Soon after breakfast being rather mild, Nancy took a ride in her Cart with Briton with her to Mattishall to Mr. Bodhams. Soon after she was gone, Mrs. Custance with her 2 Daughters and their Brother Willm. came to my House and after staying better than half an Hour, returned home. I gave the little Folks some Cakes whilst they stayed here. Soon after Mrs. Custance was gone, I christned a Child privately of one Wood's by name Mary Anne. Nancy returned home this Evening to Tea and in high Spirits—Mr. Bodham a good deal better; she likewise saw Mrs. Davy at Mr. Thornes and Mr. Thorne also met Nancy on the road on his return home from Norwich being sent for thither by express, his Sister (a Mrs. Walker and Mother to young Walker) being taken so ill that she died this Morning and she is to be buried at Weston as Nancy tells me.

March 21. . . . This being Good-Friday I walked to Church this Morning and read Prayers there on the Occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church this Morning. Nancy could not go, as it was rather dirty under foot on Account of the Rain Yesterday in the Afternoon. We did not dine to day (being Good-Friday) till 4 o'clock, and then had only Apple-Fritters and Bread and Cheese.

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March 22. . . Had a Cow-Calf by my Cow Polly this Morning. To my Clerk (Jo. Smith) his Easter Gift gave 0. 2. 6. Sent my Servant Man, Ben, after breakfast to Norwich to receive mony for my Wheat lately sold there and also to bring back the News-papers, and Letters if any—he returned about 4 o'clock this afternoon, and brought with the above a Letter from Nancy's Brother Wllm. to let her know that her Sister was better, but was very desirous of her coming to see her, and her Brother Willm. pressing it so much in his Letter to her of almost coming down immediately, made her very uneasy—As her Strength is not at present able to undertake so long a Journey—It is wrong (I think) to press things so far (tho' most affectionately intended) as to be so earnest in their request, considering her weak State. It makes her uneasy and can be no good to her Sister. Ben brought me Cash for the 11 Coomb 2 Bshls. Wheat 11. 15. 0.

March 23. . . Read Prayers and administred the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church—being Easter Day. I gave for an Offering at the Altar 2. 6. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church this Morning it being very wet, very windy, and very cold. After administering the H. Sacrament I publickly christned a Child which had been privately named by me before of Willm. Curson's, by name Mary. There were about 23 Communicants at the H. Sacrament. James Smith, my Clerk, dined with my Folks to day. A thorough winterly day all the day long and very cold.

March 24. . . About 12 o'clock this morning I walked to Church and there buried poor Mrs. Walker of Norwich a Widow and Mother of Robert Walker, aged 42 yrs. She was also Sister to Dr. Thorne of Mattishall. She was brought from Norwich in a

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Hearse drawn by 4 Horses, and a Mourning Coach with 4 Horses also attending on the same—Her Son Robert Walker from London, Dr. Thorne and Wife, his Brother Mr. Thorne and Wife and Daughter of Kimberly, were at the Funeral. There were a great Number of People at the Funeral. I had a black Silk Hatband and pr. of Beaver Gloves. No Fee whatever was tendered me, or the Tax on Burials, offered to be paid—both which I think very strange to be omitted even mentioning. Mr. Thorne of Foulsham, a Shop-keeper there, and where Mrs. Davy and Daughter at present lodge, attended the Funeral as Undertaker. He gave me a Letter from Mrs. Davy to Nancy. A very pleasant and chearful Day all Day. Whilst we were at Dinner, a letter was brought me from Mr. Du Quesne at Bath, signifying his Intention of visiting Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett at Cole on his return from Bath and desiring me to answer it.

March 27. . . . Nancy had a Parcel from Mrs. Davy at Foulsham. We finished brewing ale and small Beer this Day, one Barrell of strong Beer and one of small Beer from 2 Coomb of Malt and 5 Pound of Hopps—Malt 19^s/0^d per Coomb and Hopps—2^s/6^d Per Pd.—both very dear.

March 29. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted dined, &c. again at home. Sent Briton with my little Cart to Norwich this Morn' early after News, Letters and many other Matters. By him, also, sent a Letter to Mr. Du Quesne now at Bath, directed to him at No. 2 Duke Street, Bath. Nancy also sent a long Letter to her Brother at Rome. Mr. Custance made us a short Morning Visit. Mr. Jeanes sent a Servant over to me this morning to desire me to serve his Church to Morrow, he being

taken very ill in a kind of a Fever. The Servant also carried back with him a young Fig Tree that I promised Mr. Jeanes some time back. Briton returned home to dinner.

April 2. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. My poor Greyhound by name Hector died almost suddenly this morning in the Cover, He was running about the Cover all the Morning before breakfast. I apprehend that he broke (by furious running) some Vessel near the Heart, as he never got up after he laid down—very soon dead indeed. About 12 I took a ride to Mattishall to see Mr. and Mrs. Bodham, met them in their Carriage and Mr. Ashill with them on the Turnpike going to Honingham to put Mr. Ashill down there in his way for Norwich. They asked me to go to their House and dine with them as they would soon be back, which accordingly I did, and they returned in about half an Hour. Before they returned, I took a walk to a Cottage just by Mr. Bodhams to see one Mary Brand an old Woman of 80 who belongs to Weston and to whom I send Mony every Year out of the Charity belonging to poor Widows of Weston. She lives with her Daughter, Wife of Jos. Bruton and a Tenant to Mr. Bodham, I found her spinning by the fire tho' she almost is blind. I gave her to buy Tobacco as she smokes o. i. o. We had for dinner, a nice piece of boiled beef, Mutton stakes, mince Veal, Apple Dumplins and Pudding. I returned home about 6 o'clock to Tea. Whilst I was out Dr. Thorne called on my Niece and left with her for me, for burying his Sister Mrs. Walker last Monday Sennight 2. 2. 0 which I think was very handsome of him. Mr. Bodham is not right well yet, and looks poorly.

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April 5. . . . Mr. Jeanes sent over to me this morning to desire me to serve his Church again to Morrow. Nancy had a Letter this Evening by Mr. Cary, from her Brother Willm.—Her Sister somewhat better. She had also another Letter from Trowbridge from one Js. Woodforde, Ralph's Brother, who is apprenticed to an Apothecary there.

April 6. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morn' at Weston Ch. None from Weston House at Church this Morning. We dined at 1 to day. and at 2 this afternoon I went to Witchingham and there read Prayers and Preached for Mr. Jeanes. He is a little better. Just as I got to Mr. Jeanes's, a Post Chaise drove up also to Mr. Jeanes's Door in which was Mrs. Jeanes's Mother, late Mrs. Springer but now Mrs. Locke. She sat of from Southampton last Friday night and got to Witchingham about 3 o'clock this afternoon. I stayed about half an Hour after Service with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes and Mrs. Locke. I returned home about 5 o'clock, and had not been within Doors above 5 Minutes, before a Post Chaise with Mrs. Davy, Miss Davy, and Mr. Charles Roupe came to my House, and they drank Tea with us and went for Foulsham about 7 o'clock. Whilst they were here, a Mr. Quarles a young genteel Man of Foulsham called to speak with me about qualifying myself to give him my Vote for his being Clerk to the Commissioners of the Land Tax for Eynesford Hundred which his Father had for many Years. I desired him to walk in which he did but did not stay to Tea.

April 7. . . . I privately baptized a Child of Harry Dunnells this morning at my House—by name—Robert. Mr. Du Quesne's Servant Mrs. England called on my Niece this Evening and drank a Dish of

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Tea with her. She brought a Letter that she recd. from Mr. Du Quesne last Saturday, dated from Mr. Pounsetts at Cole the first of this Month, that he was highly [pleased] of being with Mr. Pounsett and my Sister and our other Friends. He likes Mr. Pounsetts Place very much indeed. It gave Nancy and me much Pleasure. I was very indifferent this Evening, took some Rhubarb going to bed to night—Pray God it may do good.

April 12. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich on horseback after News &c. He returned home to dinner, no Letters. He called by my desire on Mr. Jeanes who is at Norwich and under Mr. Martineau for his health.¹ He brought us word that Mr. Jeanes was very bad. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with old Mrs. Collyer drank Tea with us this afternoon and stayed till after 8. Mr. Custance's Son William came with them. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, Commerce, lost o. 6.

April 16. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I shot a Jay this morning in my Garden and hung him up on a Gibbet to deter others. Just as Nancy was going to get into her little Cart to take a ride to Mr. Jeanes's, Mrs. Thorne with her wild Daughter Mary Anne about 8 years old, and a Miss Walker, Sister to young Walker, came driving into the Yard in a one Horse Chaise and stayed with us above an Hour and then returned home to Mattishall about 1 o'clock. Nancy took a little ride after they were gone for about an Hour to Mr. Du Quesnes and returned home to dinner—Mr. D. Quesne in London. Betty had a Letter from him Monday last, is much pleased with the reception he met with from our Friends in Somersetshire. It

¹ See foot-note, p. 292, vol. i, on the Martineau family.

gave us Pleasure. To my Maid Betty this Evening for things pd. 5. 3. To my Man Briton ditto for things pd. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. To Miss Woodforde for Tape pd. 1. 10.

April 17. . . . Nancy took a ride in her little Cart this Morning to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham and home to Dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes at Norwich still. I received a Note from Mr. Jeanes this Morning by his Servant Alldin, who came over to my House with the same. Mr. Jeanes informs me that he has been extremely ill indeed, but now hopes he is getting better—he desires me to serve Witchingham on Sunday next.

April 18. . . . At 9 o'clock this morning—I mounted my Mare and went to Aylsham to the Arch-Deacon's generals. Briton went with me to carry my gown. Got to Aylsham about 11 o'clock, put on my gown and went to Church and heard a Sermon Preached by Mr. Wilson for Mr. Eaton. The Clergy present were the Archdeacon Mr. Younge, Mr. Priest, Mr. Candler, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Alldison, Mr. Addison, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Jewell and myself and Mr. Taswell who read Prayers. We all dined with the Arch-Deacon at the black Boys, but Mr. Taswell who was not very well. After Church I walked down to Taswells House and saw Master Bacon, Mrs. Taswell and Daughters. Master Bacon not very well, bad head Ache. Mrs. Taswell a plain dressed Woman and ordinary. Their Daughters not handsome. Paid for my Dinner to day 0. 3. 0 Paid also for non Attendance for 3 Generals to Mr. Morphew Junr. 0. 3. 0. Paid also for Mr. Jeanes 0. 1. 0 The Arch-Deacon went away about 4 o'clock at which time also I mounted my Mare and returned home to Tea by 6 o'clock this Even'. Recd. this Morning at Aylsham

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from Mr. Forster, one of our Church Wardens for Weston o. 5. 0 being my Fee for two Years for writing out an indented Copy from the Registers. Recd. this Evening for Butter at 9 per Pint 1. 6.

April 19, I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Recd. a Letter this Evening from Mr. Du Quesne at London, intends being home to night, it was dated April 14—He talks very highly of Cole, and the many Civilities recd. from our Somersett Friends. Recd. also a very short Letter from my Brother Heighes informing me that his Daughter Juliana is entirely given over by the Faculty—poor Girl—Nancy recd. also a very melancholy Letter from her Brother Willm. concerning poor Juliana, that she was at the last stage of Life, and to desire Nancy to come down immediately into Somersett. Am afraid by this time that poor Juliana is no more. Nancy was half distracted almost on the Account. She cried incessantly the whole Evening, I sincerely pity her—no two Sisters could love one another more. Mr. Du Quesne's Head Maid, Betty, called on us this afternoon to let us know that Mr. Du Quesne would be at home this Evening.

April 20. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Ch. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. In the afternoon rode to Witchingham and there read Prayers and Preached for Mr. Jeanes, who is still at Norwich but somewhat better. Poor Nancy very low all the whole Day on her poor Sisters Account—Could eat little or nothing.

April 21. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. After breakfast we took a ride to Mr. Du Quesnes, Nancy in her little Cart and myself on Horseback. We found

Mr. Du Quesne at home and very well after his long Journey, stayed with him near 2 Hours. Mr. Du Quesne told us that he never met with More Civility than he received from our Somersett Friends when he was with them, particularly from my Sister Pounsett, Mr. Pounsett, and from my Brother John Woodforde and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke. He spoke very much of my Brother Johns Genteel Behaviour towards him—and of the kind Attention of Nancy's Brother the Capt. to him. He saw Nancys poor Sister Juliana, she would go to my Brother Johns to dinner to meet Mr. Du Quesne—and she liked him very much. Mr. Du Quesne said that she was extremely weak and no hopes of her getting the better of it. He brought for Nancy a little Parcel from her poor Sister and gave it to her—which she opened on her return home. It was a small roundish red Morrocco Purse with a small silver lock to it and in it was a new half guinea of 1787 and 2 Queen Anne's Sixpences. It made her very uneasy and unhappy for a long time after, was rather more composed before she went to bed. It made my heart ache to see her so miserable. Had a note this Morning from young Mr. Quarles to desire me to appear at Reepham in his behalf on Wednesday the 30 Instant at 11. in the Morn'.

April 22. . . . Poor Nancy quite miserable about her Sister.

April 23. . . . Poor Nancy very low indeed and melancholy.

April 24. . . . Nancy rather more composed to day. Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest of Reepham dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner some Skaite and a Piece of rost Beef with a boiled rich plumb-Pudding and Tartlets. Mr. Du Quesne made



NANCY WOODFORDE

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me a Present of a small silver Muffineer this afternoon.
To old Dick Buck for sending my Niece some Nutts
by Betty sent him o. i. o.

April 25. . . . To a poor Family, Sufferers by fire, gave
o. i. o. Mr. Custance with a Mr. Whitebread from
London, called here this Morning on horseback but
did not dismount. Mr. Custance asked me to dinner
to day and also my Niece but obliged to decline it, as
{Nancy's Spirits were very low.

April 26. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich
with 6 Coomb of Barley to sell for me. Mr. and Mrs.
Custance made us a Morning Visit. Ben returned
about 5 o'clock, sold my Barley to Mr. Bloome at
 $10^s/0^d$ per Coomb bare measure therefore I received
instead of 3£ only—2. 17. 0.

April 29. . . . We brewed to day some table Beer.

April 30. . . . Soon after breakfast I went to Reepham
on young Mr. Quarles Account, this being the day
appointed for a meeting of the Commissioners of the
Land Tax to do business and chuse a new Clerk in the
room of Mr. Quarles's Father, deceased, we met at
the Kings Arms kept by one Bell, a very Civil Man.
I qualified as a Commissioner of the same. Mr. Press
Custance, Mr. Atthill of Foulsham, Clerk, Mr.
Garrett, Mr. Brooks, and myself the only Commis-
sioners present—and there being no opposition for a
Clerk, we nominated Mr. Quarles Junr. into that
Office for the Year ensuing. Mr. Wymer of Reepham
had made application to many for the Clerkship—but
he declined it. I dined at the Kings Arms with Mr.
Atthill, Mr. Garrett, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Quarles, Mr.
Caufude assistant to Mr. Quarles, Mr. Matthew
Breese, Chief Constable and Mr. Austin Breese
Deputy Chief Constable. pd. for my Dinner &c.

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o. 4. o. As I went to Reepham, called at Mr. Jeanes's and found him and Wife and Mrs. Jeanes's Aunt Miss Short at Witchingham ; they came from Norwich on Monday last—Mr. Jeanes being finely. When at Reepham called at Mr. Priests, saw him and his Wife and 4 of their Children at dinner. I left Reepham about 5 o'clock this afternoon. Called on my return home at Mr. Jeanes's and drank Tea with them—Got home abt. 8. Mattishall Gaunt (alias Fair) to day, my Maid Betty, whose Friends live at Mattishall went thither and is to return home to Morrow.

May 2. . . . My little Cart was brought home from being painted this Evening from Shorts of Honingham—and now looks very smart indeed—it is of a very dark green.

May 3. . . . Sent Ben this morning early to Norwich with 10 Coomb and 2 Bushells of Oats to sell for me. Mr. Du Quesne called on us this Morning in his return from Mr. Priests of Reepham to his own home. I asked him to dine with us, but he wanted to be at home. Ben returned home about 5 o'clock, sold my Oats to Mr. Bloome, but did not know at what price as he could not stay to receive the mony for the same without making it very late home—It did not signify much as I have more Corn to send him soon. We recd. no Letters from the West, tho' much expected.

May 5. . . . Jⁿ Greaves and his Brother were at work all Day for me sawing out Posts and Rails &c. . . .

May 6. . . . Recd. by Ben of Jⁿ Norton for me for one Acre of Turnips sold him in the Winter 1. 11. 6. Sent out of it to Jⁿ Norton by Ben 5. o. To my Man, Briton, for odd things pd. o. 5. 9½. Nancy took a ride this morning after breakfast in her little Cart and Briton with her to Witchingham to Mr. Jeanes's there

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to see them and Miss Short. And there she stayed and spent the Afternoon and returned before 8 o'clock this Evening home.

May 7. . . . About 4 o'clock this Afternoon a smart Tempest begun, very loud Thunder with strong vivid Lightning attended by heavy Rain, and lasted about an Hour. Thank God ! we received no Injury from the same. Hubbard the Glazier and his Apprentice, Richd. Osborn—dined with our Folks in the Kitchen —they are here glazing my Cucumber Frame.

May 8. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich early this morning for things wanted from thence, he returned by dinner, and brought a Letter for Nancy from her Brother Willm. upbraiding her for not coming to see her Sister, who is still alive and that is all—poor Girl I am sorry for her but am not pleased with Willm. for such a Letter to her Sister, as it made her very unhappy and very ill, vomited a good [deal] and could eat nothing at all for Dinner. Instead of condoling with her about her poor Sister and sorry for her not being able to go into the Country he rebukes her with want of humanity &c. It is quite cruel and unfeeling of him I think. His Letter was composed of a great many fine Epithets and sentimental thoughts.

May 9. . . . Poor Nancy very low all day about her poor Sister. She has been writing a long Letter to her Brother to day in answer to his of Yesterday. Recd. for Butter of Mr. Cary @ 8^d. o. 1. 8.

May 10. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with 8 Coomb of Oats to sell for me and bring back Coal. Nancy sent her Letter by Ben to her Brother. Ben returned about 5 this Afternoon from Norwich, he sold my Oats at 8^s/o^d per Coomb—received for the above 8 Coomb and 10 Coomb sent last week 7. o. o.

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Paid John Greaves and his Brother Tom, Carpenters for sawing 430 Feet of Board at 4^s/0^d per Hundrd 17. 6. To Ditto—4 Days Work @ 3^s/3^d per Day 13. 0. No Letters from the West—Nancy had one from Mrs. Davy.

May 11. . . I read Prayers and administred the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston being Whitsunday. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the H. Sacrament. I gave for an Offering at the Altar o. 2. 6. Js. Smith my Clerk dined with our Folks in Kitchen, as did Tom Greaves the Carpenter here Yesterday.

May 12. . . Merry doings at the Heart to day being Whit Monday plowing for a Pr^r of Breeches, running for a Shift, Raffling for a Gown &c.

May 14. . . To my Maid Betty, for a Pigg killing pd o. 1. 0. To Mr. Cary for Butter at 8^d—o. 2. 0. Mr. and Mrs. Custance and their Son Willm. drank Tea with us this Afternoon quite unexpected. They were so kind as to bring us a Cucumber. They came about 6 o'clock and stayed with us till near 8 this Evening.

May 15. . . My Colt Rodney ¹ was cut this morning by one Farrow of Melton, he had for the same 1^s/6^d.

To Js. Pegg this Morning—Qrs. Land Tax	3.	0.	0
To Do. $\frac{1}{2}$ Years Window Tax	. .	2.	13.
To Do. ditto House ditto	. .	0.	1.
To Do. ditto Male Servant Tax	. .	1.	5.
To Do. ditto Female Do.	. .	0.	10.
To Do. ditto Horse Tax	. .	0.	10.
To Do. ditto Cart Tax ²	. .	0.	1.

¹ It is pleasant to find Parson Woodforde naming his pony after the famous Admiral, whose victory of April 12, 1782, had so elated him. See entry for May 21 and May 22, 1782, and foot-note pp. 25–6, vol. ii.

² See vol. i, pp. 57–8, and vol. ii, p. 208, for notes on these taxes.

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About 1 o'clock Nancy and self went to Mr. Du Quesne's and there dined and spent the afternoon with him and Mr. John Priest of Norwich. Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham were expected to be of the Party. We had for Dinner some nice Maccarel, a Couple of Fowls boiled and some Bacon, a fine fore Qr. of Lamb, some Asparagus and Damson Tarts. We returned home about 8 o'clock, Nancy in her little Cart and myself on horseback, as we went. Recd. of my Servant Man Ben, this Evening for 4 Piggs sold to one Clarke of Barford—3. 10. 0. Morn'—cloudy, windy, and rather cold. Afternoon—ditto but Less Wind.

May 17. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted dined, &c. again at home. Sent Ben very early this Morning to Norwich with ten Coomb 2 Bshls of Wheat. He sold it to Mr. Bloome at 24^s/0^d per Coomb—I recd. for the same 12. 0. 0. He also brought me 2 Letters—One from My Sister Pounsett and the other from my Brother Heighes both which brought the disagreeable news of Nancy's Sister's Death, poor Juliana Woodforde, she died on Monday Morn' last about 11 o'clock. Poor Nancy greatly affected on hearing of the same. Nancy had a Letter by Ben from Mrs. Davy. Sent a Dozen, hollow little Cakes to Weston House. In my Sister Pounsetts Letter was a Bank Bill of the value of 10. 0. 0 To John Greaves and Brother pd. this Even' 0. 8. 0 for Carpenters work and sawing.

May 18. . . . Poor Nancy something more easy and reconciled. I read Prayers and Preached this Aft. at Weston Ch. Mr. and Mrs. Custance and 2 Children at Church. Gave Nancy to day to buy Mourning for her poor Sister, when at Norwich 5. 5. 0.

May 19. I breakfasted, and spent most of the Morn' at

home. Nancy breakfasted, and spent most of the Morn' at home. My little Poney Rodney, which was cut last Thursday was taken very poorly this Morn' sent for the Farrier Mr. Gould to do what he could for him in my absence. Poor old Mrs. Frazer died early this Morning. About 11 o'clock this Morning, one of the Kings Head Chaises from Norwich came to my House to carry us to Norwich to dine at Mr. Priests and meet Mrs. Davy &c. We sat of in the same about 12 got to Norwich by 2 o'clock (thank God) safe to Mr. Priests, where we dined, spent the Afternoon supped and spent the Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Priest, and a Mr. Rose. We had for dinner, some Maccarel, a Fillet of Veal rosted, boiled Tongue, and some Jelly &c. Miss Priest of Reepham also dined with us. I slept at the Kings Head, in a two bedded Room, where a stranger Clergyman also slept with whom before I got to sleep had a good deal of Conversation his name was Topping, lived sometime at Dereham was acquainted with Hall, is now settled near Blandford in Dorsetshire, knew the Yeatmans &c. To Turnpike to day pd. o. o. 6. To the Driver of the Chaise gave o. 1. 6. My Servant Briton went with us on horseback. Gave Briton to go to the Play this Evening o. 1. 0.

May 20. I breakfasted, supped and slept at the Kings Head. Nancy breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Mr. Priests. Called at Mr. Bakers in the Market Place and was sorry to find that he then laid dead in the House. Paid his Son, Merchant a little Bill due to him o. 9. 9
 To Ditto for a Pr. of black Buckles pd. . o. 1. 0
 To Ditto changing gold not weight pd. . o. 1. 9
 To 2 Wigg Combs pd. o. 1. 6

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To Mr. Bacon, Bookseller, pd a small Bill o. 9. 10
To Mr. Beale, for Fish had in April pd. o. 1. 10
To Mr. Scott Glover, for 2 Pr. coarse
 Gloves pd o. 2. 4

I called at Sheriff Buckle, Mr. Francis, and at Mrs. Micklethwaites, the latter at Taverham. I did not see Mr. Buckle, but in the Evening he sent me a genteel Note with an Invitation to one of his public Dinners, as Sheriff, on Thursday 29 Instant. I dined and spent the Afternoon again at Mr. Priests—with him, his Wife, and my Niece. We had for Dinner, some small Whiting and a rosted Leg of Mutton, and some Jelly. Old Mr. Wymer spent part of the Afternoon with us. After Tea Dr. Hooke called in and played a Pool of Quadrille. I had a very good single bedded Room to night. Mr. John Priest returned home this Evening, having been out a Couple of Days in paying his respects to Miss Bellman.

May 21. I breakfasted and spent most of the Morn' at Norwich. Nancy also breakfasted, where she supped and slept last Night, at Mr. Priests—She has been very busy in getting her mourning to carry home with her to day. To a small flask Basket and some Cord pd. o. o. 10. To a hind Qr. of Lamb to carry home @ 4½ pd. o. 3. 3½. To one Hylatt for a fine Cucumber gave o. 1. o. Paid and gave at my Inn o. 13. 5. To 2 Chaises to Weston Pd. o. 18. o. To Franck, Barber, for 2 or 3 times gave o. 2. 6. To a handsome Crotch-Stick with Ivory Top and the wood of Icary at Marsh's paid o. 6. o. I made a present of it soon after, to my Niece A. M. W. Gave to Mr. Priest's 2 Maids o. 2. o. About 1 o'clock we got into one of the Head's Chaises and returned home to Weston by about 3 o'clock thank God, safe and pretty well. The Driver baited himself

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and Horses at my House. After the Driver had dined &c. gave him o. 1. 6. Soon after Dinner I walked to Church and buried poor old Mrs. Frazer, aged 83 years. I had a Hatband and pair of beaver Gloves. We dined, supped and slept at Weston Parsonage. We had for Dinner to day some boiled Pork and Lamb Stakes. Nancy bore the Journey very well and walked good tidily. She brought home most of her Mourning with her. I found my Colt, Rodney, much better on my return. At Bakers for an half Pint Buffalo Horn for the Kitchen pd. young Merchant Baker—1^s 6^d.

May 23. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. Press Custance, and Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes were invited but did not come. We went in Mr. Custances Coach there and back. Nancy went in full mourning, black Silk Gown and Coat and I was also in mourning. We had for Dinner a fine Trout, Leg of Mutton rosted, Beef Stakes, Pigeon Pye, hashed Calfs Head, rosted Pigeons and Asparagus and green Apricot Tart. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, Loo, won—2. o. returned home about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 this Evening. Mrs. Custance appeared very poorly the whole day. Recd. for Butter this Evening of Mr. Cary at 8^d o. 3. o.

May 24. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with 10 Coomb of Wheat full measure to sell for me. He did not return till near 7 o'clock this Even', and brought me for the Wheat at 24^s/o^d 12. o. o. Mr. Buckle sent me for a present of 2 Doz. of Cyder. Nancy had a Letter from Betsy Davy by Ben.

May 25. . . . I buried poor old Willm. Case this Evening aged 66 Yrs.

May 27. . . . Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham and his Father

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from Christchurch in Hampshire who is on a Visit to his Son, and his Wife with him, made us a Morning Visit, but no Ladies with them. Mr. Jeanes Father drank a Glass of my strong Beer.

May 29. . . . Poor old Willm. Cases Widow, waited on me this morning having sent to her, about some Rent and Tithe due to me for the last Year of £17 0^s 0^d from her late Husband, and she promised to let me have the same between this and the first of September next.

May 30. . . . To Neighbour Norton for a Breast Veal at 3½ o. 1. 6.

To ditto for a Calfs Head o. 1. o.

Mrs. Custance called here this morning but did not stay above 5 Minutes, as my Niece was dressing her Hair to go to Mr. Jeanes's and could not be seen. About Noon we took a ride to Mr. Jeanes's Nancy in her Little Cart and I on my Mare, where we dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes, Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes Sen^r Mr. Jeanes's Father and Mother and a Miss Short Mrs. Jeanes Jun^{rs} Aunt. We had for Dinner a Couple of fine Spring Chicken boiled, and some hampshire Bacon, a green Goose, rosted and a batter Pudding with Currants in it. Mr. Jeanes's Father appears to be a hearty, good kind of Man and very cheerful—His Wife seems a meek kind of a Woman, rather coarse. We returned home about half-past 8 this Evening. I sat up rather late to night, to finish a long Letter which I send to Morrow to my Sister Pounsett.

May 31. . . . About half an Hour before 3 o'clock this Afternoon Mrs. Davy and Daughter came to my House in a Post Chaise from Norwich, and they both dined and spent part of the Afternoon and then went on for Foulsham. The Driver dined in the Kitchen,

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and the Horses had Corn. Briton returned home by dinner time. Mrs. Davy brought us a Cucumber.

June 2. . . . Very busy this morning in bottling of two Tubbs of Gin and one of Coniac Brandy this Morn' which came in the Night from Bucks from Honingham. The Rhubarb I took last Night, did me good I think.

June 4. . . . Harrison the Thatcher, busy in new thatching the middle part of my Barn towards the East.

June 5. . . . To Briton for things from Norwich &c. paid o. 9. 7½. A mad Dog of Mr. Peachmans made rather an Alarm in the Parish this morning. Nancy bought of Bagshaw this morning 3 yards and ½ of Muslin at 5^s/0^d per Yard—also 18 yards. of very broad black Ribband for Sashes at 7^d per Yard. Also 18 Yrds of Narrow black Ribband at 4^d per Yrd. Also 13 yards and ½ of still narrower Do. at 3½ per Yrd. Also a very genteel, neat Shawl at 10 Shillings. Both my Maids bought 2 Shawls the same as Nancy. I bought nothing at all of him. Sent Nancy to pay Bagshaw 1. 1. 0. Recd. of Mr. Cary for Butter at 8^d o. 3. 4. Mr. Custance called on us this morning and desired our Company in the afternoon to Coffee. About 5 o'clock we went up to Weston House and there drank Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Custance only. We returned home as we went about 9 this Evening. Nancy went in her little Cart with our Maid, Betty and Briton by the side of the Cart—I walked by myself.

June 6. . . . To my Man Ben for things pd. 4. 4. 8. that is, £1. 18^s. 0^d. for a Tub of Coniac Brandy of four gallons by Moonshine Buck and £2. 6^s. 0^d for two Tubbs of Geneva of 4 Gallons each by ditto and the odd 8^d for Horses Shoes removed.¹

¹ For remarks on smuggling see vol. i, p. 197, and vol. ii, p. 292, foot-note.

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June 7. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich after a Qr. of Pipe of Port Wine. Ben returned home to dinner with the Wine, all safe—159 Bottles in 4 Hampers. No Letters whatever—only News Papers and Magazine.

June 9. . . . Had a Note this Evening from Mr. Du Quesne to desire that he might go from my House on Wednesday to Mr. Jeanes's in my little Cart and so drive Nancy, but I sent him in answer back that he could not go that Way as Betsy Davy who comes to us to Morrow goes with Nancy to Mr. Jeanes on Wednesday.

June 10. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Foulsham after Betsy Davy in my little Cart. He returned with her about 2 o'clock and she dined, supped and slept here. Mrs. Custance spent the whole Morning with my Niece, till after 2 o'clock.

June 11. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. Nancy breakfasted supped, &c again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, supped, &c. here again. About 1 o'clock Mr. Du Quesne called here on horseback and I went with him on my Mare to Mr. Jeanes's, and Nancy and Betsy Davy went thither also in my little Cart, where we all dined, with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes Junr., Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes Senr., Mr. and Mrs. Locke (who came to Mr. Jeanes's last Night) Miss Short, Mr. Charles Springger, (Brother to Mrs. Jeanes Junr.) Mr. and Mrs. Priest and Miss Mary Priest from Reepham. We had a very excellent Dinner, that is to say, a fine Piece of fresh Salmon with Tench and Eel, boiled Ham and Fowls, the best part of a Rump of Beef stewed, Carrots and Peas, a fore Qr. of Lamb roasted, Cucumbers and Mint Sauce, a Couple of Ducks roasted, plain and Currant Puddings. After Dinner 2 large Dishes of Strawberries, some Blanched Almonds

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with Raisins and Aplies. We were much crowded at Table, rather unpleasant. Major Lloyd with his 2 eldest Daughters joined us at the Tea Table in the Evening which made the whole Company then consist of 18 in Number. After Coffee and Tea we had two or three Songs from Miss Kate Lloyd who sings delightfully indeed. It was sometime after 9 o'clock before we got back to Weston—we returned as we went. Upon the whole we spent a very agreeable Day. Mr. Jeanes Senr. is a mighty cheerful good natured plain downright Man. Mr. Locke a very neat well looking old gentleman, and Country Esq. fond of Hunting, keeps 16 fox Hounds, talks plain Hampshire and Delights also in farming. Mr. Charles Springer a very modest young Man about 17 or 18 yrs, in some branch of Trade belonging to the India House.

June 14. . . . To the poor lame girl, Betty Deeker gave
o. o. 6.

June 18. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Master George Custance called on us this morning on his little Hobby, he and Brother came from School on Monday. Some Thunder this Afternoon with some Rain. Heavy Thunder Storms went off towards the West. Mr. and Mrs. Custance sent to us to desire us to drink Tea with them this Afternoon, but we sent word back that we rather expected Company.

June 19. . . . At 1 o'clock we took a ride to Mr. Thornes at Mattishall, Nancy, and Betsy Davy in my little Cart and I went with them on my Mare, we got there about halfpast 2 o'clock and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with Mrs. Thorne and 2 Daughters, Mrs. Thorne of Kimberley, her Daughter Mrs. Leath,

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and Miss Walker who came with Mrs. Thorne of Kimberley. Mrs. Thorne of Kimberley, Mrs. Leath, and Miss Walker went away before Tea—and we returned home very soon after Tea—Got home before 8 o'clock. Dr. Thorne not at home the whole time, being obliged to be with Mrs. Howman of Hockering who was in labour with her first Child. We had for Dinner, some Maccarel, a Leg of Mutton boiled and Caper Sauce 3 Chicken rosted and some Peas and a baked Pudding.

June 21. . . . About 10 o'clock Mr. Priest of Reepham in his return home from Mr. Du Quesnes called here this morning, but did not stay long—during his being here Mr. Custances 2 eldest Sons made us a Visit and stayed with us till 12 o'clock—during their being here I launched my Ship for the first time this Year. Soon after they were gone Dr. Thorne called on us and stayed till after 1 o'clock and during the Time that the Dr. was here, Mr. Jeanes's Father and with him a Mr. Locke (Father in Law to our Mrs. Jeanes) made us a Visit and stayed with us till near 3 o'clock, but could not dine with us—but they eat some cold Ham and cold Mutton, and drank some Brandy and Water and some Table Beer. They are both hearty, good kind of People, particularly so Mr. Jeanes—who is all Life and Goodnature. To 1 Dozen of Maccarel this morning pd. o. 2. o. Sent Briton on horseback early this Morning to Norwich after News, &c. he returned by dinner.

June 23. . . . My Niece and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart this Afternoon to Attlebridge and drank Tea with Miss Lombe. They returned home by 8 o'clock this Evening. Had a Note this Morning from Mr. Du Quesne to desire our Company to meet Mr. and

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Mrs. Jeanes and their Friends at Dinner on Wednesday next.

June 24. . . . To 6 Chicken and 5 Ducks this morning pd. o. 6. 4 of one Dalliday of France Green. To Briton for things from Norwich last Saturday, Newspapers, Soap, Currants &c. pd. o. 14. 8. To a poor Man of Felthorp, Sufferer by fire gave 1. 0. Recd. of Mr. Cary for Butter at 8^d o. 1. 8.

June 26. . . . To some Scotch Snuff at Mr. Carys p^d o. o. 1.

June 27. . . . Mr. Thorne called here this morning and gave me his Account for Medicines, Journies, &c. of 16. 19. 1. Mr. Custance's eldest Son, Hambleton, called on us this Morning and was detained here some time by Rain. In the Evening Mrs. Custance called here in her Carriage and would take Nancy, and Betsy Davy back with her to Weston House to drink Tea with them—I also soon after mounted my Mare and went to Weston House and there drank [Tea] with Mr. and Mrs. Custance &c. After Tea we got to Cards, to Commerce, to please the young Folks—I won the Pool of o. 4. 0. We did not return home till near 10 o'clock.

June 30. . . . At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy lost o. 2. 0.

July 1. I breakfasted, supped &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted, supped &c again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, supped, &c here again. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Jeanes's with him, his Wife, Mr. and Mrs. Locke, Miss Short and Mr. Du Quesne—Nancy and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart but returned home in Mr. Du Quesnes Chaise as it was rather likely for Rain—I on horseback. We had for Dinner a boiled Tongue and Peas, a Couple of

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small Chicken rosted, a leg of Mutton boiled and Capers, a green Goose rosted and a Currant Pudding. We had a Dish of Cherries only by way of Desert. We returned home about 9 o'clock. The Dinner we had to day I think was nothing extraordinary for such a Party.

July 3. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes, Mr. and Mrs. Locke, Miss Short, and Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us—Mr. and Mrs. Locke go away to Morrow. We had for Dinner 2 Dishes of Soals fryed, Ham and 3 boiled Chicken, a large piece of boiled Beef, Beans, a Couple of Ducks rosted and Peas, Gooseberry Pies and Currant Tarts. Our Desert after Dinner was, Rasberries, Strawberries, Gooseberries, and Currants, Almonds and Raisins, and a Couple of fine Melons—Mr. Jeanes brought us a Melon in his Pocket. Port Wine and Mountain, strong Beer, Porter and Table Beer. They stayed with us till after 8 o'clock Recd. for Butter this Evening at 8^d o. 1. 8.

July 7. . . . Mr. Custance sent me a Melon and with it a Note to inform us that Mrs. Custance was this morning about 2 o'clock safely delivered of another Son and that both Mother and Child were as well as could possibly be expected in the time. Mr. C. also desired me (if perfectly convenient) to wait on him in the afternoon and name the little Stranger. After Dinner therefore about 5 o'clock I took a Walk to Weston House and named the little Infant, in Lady Bacons dressing Room by name, Neville. The Revd. Mr. Daniel Collyer of Wroxham was with Mr. Custance when I first went in but he soon went. I stayed and drank Tea with Mr. Custance and Sons and did not return home till after 8 this Evening.

July 8. . . . Mrs Davy from Foulsham (Betsy's Mother)

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came to my House this morning before 8 o'clock, and before any of us were stirring, and she stayed and breakfasted, dined and spent the afternoon with us. She came on horseback behind a Mr. Harris a tall stout Man, a reduced Farmer, and he stayed and breakfasted, dined, &c. with our Folks in Kitchen. To Mr. Aldridge for 6 Yards of purple spotted Cotton to make me a morning gown at 2^s/0^d pd. o. 12. 0. To ditto for $\frac{1}{2}$ Yrd. Cambric for Bands pd. o. 4. 0. To ditto for 3 Yrds. of rather coarse long Lawn for Night Handkerchiefs at 2^s/6^d pd. o. 7. 6. Mrs Davy did not set out for Foulsham till after 8 this Even'. We had for Dinner to Day some Peas and Beans, a Piggs Face, some mixed Veal, a Neck and Breast of Mutton rosted whole, black and red Currant Tarts and Gooseberry Do.

July 11. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Mr. Custances 3 Sons, Hambleton, George, and William, drank Tea with us this Afternoon. They were in high Spirits all the time with us, playing and running about the Garden. They came walking and returned home the same.

July 14. . . . A Mrs. Hunt, a very tall stout Woman, with Mr. Stephen Andrews, called on me this Afternoon to desire me to examine the Register after one Eliz. Lambe above 100 years ago, which I found and gave her a Copy of the same, I took nothing for it, as it was for a poor Family.

July 15. . . . Mr. Jeanes called here about Noon, did not stay long, I asked him to dine, but he could or would not. Betsy Davy had a Letter from her Mother, by Moore.

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July 18. . . . Mr. Walker from London (Betsy Davy's intended) spent part of the morning with us—He came to his Uncle Mr. Thorne of Mattishall last Night. He looks ill indeed and Country Air advised for him. About 1 o'clock Nancy, and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham. They dined, supped and slept at Mr. Jeanes's. Briton returned home with the Cart by Dinner.

July 19. . . . In the Evening sent Briton with my little Cart after my Niece and Betsy Davy from Witchingham and they returned about half past 8 o'clock, and they supped and slept again at Weston Parsonage. Recd. a Letter this Evening by Mr. Cary from my Sister Pounsetts Daughter, Jenny Pounsett, who is now with her Mama at Cole, wherein she mentions that her Mama has been ill and was still so, but not dangerous, and that she desired Jenny to be her Scribe. It was a pretty, sensible, well-wrote Letter of hers. Pray God ! my dear Sister Pounsett might soon get better. All our other Friends in the Country we hear are well except poor Sam. Clarke and he is rather better. Nancy tells me that Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes are very angry with me in not going over to dine with them.

July 21. . . . Mr. Walker from Mattishall spent part of the Morn' here. To my Maid Betty Dade for things pd. o. 2.4. To my Servant Man, Briton Scurl for Do. pd. o. 1. 8. Mr. Custance with his 3 eldest Sons, Hambleton, George, and William, drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon—Hambleton and George go to School to Morrow to Mr. Phillips of Palgrave.

July 22. . . . About 11 this Morn' Mrs. Davy from Foulsham came here in a Chaise-Cart and one Mr. Harris who came with her the last time, and she dined, supped and Slept here, as did also Mr. Harris. Mrs.

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Thorne of Mattishall with Miss Walker and her Brother dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Dr. Thorne promised to come also but was prevented by being obliged to attend some Patients. We had for Dinner 3 Chicken boiled and a Piggs Face, a fine Piece of boiled Beef, Beans and Peas, a rost Goose and some Tarts. Mrs. Thorne with Miss Walker and Brother left us abt. 8.

July 23. . . . Mrs. Davy and Daughter breakfasted, and spent part of the Morn' also at Weston. Mr. Walker from Mattishall came here about 10 o'clock this Morning and stayed about an Hour. About 12 o'clock Mrs. Davy and her Driver Mr. Harris, Betsy Davy and my Niece in my little Cart with the Boy behind, and Mr. Walker and my Man Briton on horseback, sat of from my House for Foulsham, where my Niece is to spend a few Days with Mrs Davy and her Daughter, at a Mr. Thorne's there. Briton and my Boy returned from Foulsham this Evening about 8 o'clock—All got well there. Mr. Walker left them about Bawdeswell.

July 24. . . . Busy this morning in seeing some Gooseberry Jamm made for the Winter—6 P^d Fruit—3 P^d Sugar.

July 25. . . . Brewed some Table Beer to day.

July 26. . . . I privately named a Child this morning at my House by name Rebeccah—Henry Dunnell Jun^{rs}. of this Parish. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich after News &c. He returned about 4 o'clock this Afternoon. Ben saw a Man hanged at Norwich by name Hardy for killing his Brother in Law.

July 28. . . . I was very low-spirited this Evening after Tea. I believe that Tea made me worse rather I think. I shot a Wood-Pecker this Morn' in my Garden.

July 29. I breakfasted, dined and spent the Aft. at home.

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In the Evening took a ride to Norwich and Briton with me, and there I supped and slept at the Kings Head. In the Evening before Supper I walked into St. Stephens and saw the Polish Dwarf, Joseph Boruwlaski and his Wife who is a middle sized Person, he is only three feet three Inches in height, quite well proportioned everyway, very polite, sensible and very sprightly, and gave us a tune upon the Guitar, and one Tune of his own composing. The common price of admittance was one Shilling, but I gave him rather more o. 2. 6.

July 30. I got up this morning about six o'clock and before breakfast mounted my Mare and sat of for Bungay and Briton with me, went three Miles at least out of our Way to find out Ellingham where Mr. Hall is Rector, called at Mr. Donnes at Brome, saw only Mrs. Donne her Husband being gone to Bungay, did not unlight but from thence went to a Mrs. Johnsons where at present Mr. Hall boards (about half a Mile from Mr. Donnes) and there I met with him and a neighbouring Clergyman a Mr. Francis with him eat a bit of Cake and drank a Glass of very old Madeira and then went with Mr. Hall to his Parsonage House, about half a Mile from Mrs. Johnsons, and there stayed with him till he had dressed himself. Such a Parsonage House and Garden and in so low a place, close also to the River which often overflows, besides Ellingham Mill so close that the Sound of it is continually heard. Such a House and Situation I think very far from being agreeable. Mr. Hall however is fitting of it up in a shabby Manner and at present sleeps there of nights, no Man, Maid, Horse, Dog, or any living Creature but himself there—The House very small indeed. After Mr. Hall had dressed himself, He went with me to

Bungay about two Miles and half from his House, and there we dined and spent the Aft. at the three Tunns kept by Mr. and Mrs. Utting. Mr. Hall had Mrs. Johnsons Horse to go with me. We got to Bungay about 3 o'clock, and glad enough I was to get there having had no breakfast. We had for Dinner some fish and a Leg of Mutton which was just fit as we got thither. In the Evening about 8 o'clock Mr. Hall left me. As we were going into Bungay to Day we met Mr. Donne and his Brother in Law Mr. Mott with him in a one horse Chaise. We had some Chit-Chat together, but not for any considerable time. I supped and slept at the three Tunns at Bungay.

July 31. I breakfasted at the three Tunns and after being shaved and a clean Shirt, about 9 o'clock mounted my Mare and sat of for Norwich. To the Barber that shaved me, for the Rasor with which he shaved me and for himself—gave 0. 3. 0. At a Bookseller's Shop at Bungay for a large Stick of red sealing Wax paid 0. 1. 0. To a Book that I happen to see also in his Shop published by an old acquaintance of mine, by name Caldecot of the middle Temple p^d 0. 11. 0 entitled, Reports of Cases relative to the duty of a Justice of Peace from 1776. to 1785. Spoke to Mr. Doughty my Shoemaker at Bungay about Boots and Shoes, bespoke a pr. of each. Saw Mr. Donne again this morning at Bungay, this being Market-Day at Bungay, and he was marketting. Saw George Roupe (who is apprenticed to a Mr. Cammel Surgeon and Apothecary) this morning before I left Town as I did also, Master Thos. Roupe who is at School at the Rev^d. Mr. Reeves—gave him—0. 1. 0. They are nearly related to Betsy Davy and her Mother. Paid and gave at Bungay at the Tunns 0. 14. 6. We got to Norwich about 1 o'clock and not

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before my Mare not being able to go above a foot pace. It becomes very disagreeable to ride her now. I dined at the Kings Head with the Family, only Mr. and Mrs. Raven and her Sister Miss Baldwin. To Miss Browne paid a Bill for Nancy of 4. 4. 0. To Beales my Fish Man pd him 0. 3. 3. Paid and gave at the Kings Head abt. 0. 15. 6. About 6 o'clock this Evening we set off for Weston and it was half past 9 before we reached home, owing to my poor old Mare being so bad, I walked full 6 Miles of the Way. Thank God ! found all things well at home, my Niece not returned yet from Foulsham. I supped and slept at home and much tired.

August 1. . . . Sent Briton early this morning after my Niece from Foulsham, and she returned about 2 o'clock, and I thank God, brave and hearty. Nancy dined, supped and slept at home.

Aug. 4. . . . To John Harrison, Thatcher, for thatching my Barn, and also an Hay-Stack pd. a Bill of 3. 13. 6. To my Servant Man, Briton pd. 0. 3. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. To my Servant Man, Ben, pd. 0. 9. 10. Mr. Walker dined and spent the Afternoon with us and after Tea rode on [to] Foulsham to his Dulcinea. Sent Briton this Morning to Mr. Du Quesnes to desire his Company to dinner to meet the Norwich Priests on Thursday next—No Answer returned being from home.

Aug. 6. . . . Mr. Robert Walker breakfasted and spent part of the Morning with us—he came before we were below. He was going to Mattishall from Foulsham. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after Fish for to Morrow having some Company then. Ben returned about 1 o'clock with 6 Pr. of Soals at 3^d per Pair—About one Pound weight a pair. He also brought me 8 large Cucumbers for 3 pence.

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Aug. 11. . . Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy came over on single Horses this Morning from Foulsham and they breakfasted, dined, and spent the Afternoon with us. We had a good deal of singing to Day from my Niece and Mr. Walker—the latter sung many new Songs. We spent a very agreeable Day together. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, a Couple of rost Chicken, Apple Pye and black Currant Tarts—Apricots, Apples and black Currants for a Desert. Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy came to us about 9 o'clock this morning and stayed till half past six in the Evening. We had a Note that Mr. and Mrs. Bodham would dine here on Wedn.

Aug. 13. . . Nancy with both my Maids very bad in colds. Dr. Thorne called here this Morning and I paid him, his long Bill of 16. 19. 0. Viz. for my Niece A. M. Woodforde 10. 2. 0, For my Servants 6. 6. 9, For my Neighbour, Anne Gooch 0. 10. 3. Soon after the Doctor went away, Mrs. Jeanes with a Mrs. Martineau made us a Morn' Visit. About 3 o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Bodham with Miss Mary Donne from Norwich came to us in their road from Norwich to Mattishall and they dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner a Knuckle of Veal boiled, a boiled Tongue, a rost Chicken, a fine piece of rost Beef, Apple Pye and black Currant Tarts. Soon after Coffee and Tea they sat of for Mattishall.

Aug. 15. . . Nancys cold much better this morning by fasting from Meat all Yesterday. Betty somewhat better, but Nanny worse.

Aug. 16. . . Nancy's cold a good deal better this morning. Sent Briton early this Morn' to Norwich after News. Mr. Quarles called on me this morning to sign some Papers respecting the Taxes &c. Sent a Letter

to my Sister Pounsett by Briton. Mrs. Davy with one Harris in a Cart called here, this Evening about 5 o'clock and drank Tea here in her road from Norwich to Foulsham. Soon after Mrs. Davy came also Mr. Walker and with him another young Man by name Viol, both almost wet thro' and they drank Tea also here in their road from Norwich homewards, so that my House was more like an Inn this Evening than anything else.

Aug. 18. . . . Begun shearing Wheat this Morning about 11. What Wheat we cut to day, we carried home at Night.

Aug. 19. . . . Widow Case, called on me this morning and paid me, in part of a Debt due for Rent and Tithe from her last Husband, the Sum of 15. 15. 0 so that there remains now only due to me for last Year due then at Michaelmas 1. 5. 0. Mr. Custance made us a long Morning Visit, and during the time of his being with us, we had some Thunder attended with some Rain. As we were at Dinner also to day, we had a most violent Clap of Thunder indeed with some very strong vivid flashes of Lightning, with some heavy Rain, but it was all soon over thank God, and no bad consequences from it.

Aug. 20. . . . Went soon after breakfast to a Meeting of the Commissioners of the Land Tax &c. at Reepham and there stayed till 9 at night. We did not dine till near 5 o'clock, on Account of so many Appeals respecting the Horse Tax &c.¹ Major Loyd, Mr. Press Custance, Mr. Atthill of Foulsham and myself were the only Commissioners present. The Surveyor from Norwich by name Woodcocke, Mr. Quarles our Clerk, and a Mr. Couford assistant Clerk also attended.

¹ For the Horse Tax see foot-note, p. 208, vol. ii.

Called at Mr. Jeanes's in my way to Reepham, saw only Mrs. Jeanes and her Aunt Miss Short. The Company at Dinner today were, Major Loyd, Mr. Press Custance, Mr. Atthill, and with him Mr. Walker, myself, Mr. Quarles, Mr. Couford, and a Mr. Hooke a gentleman Farmer. We each paid for ordinary and extraordinary—5. o. Mr. Atthill being Chairman pushed the Bottle about pretty briskly—we had several Songs.

Aug. 23. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich for News, &c. and he returned about 12 and brought back the tail part of a very fine Turbot about 5 Pd. of it at 6^d per Pound and we had it for Dinner. It was as good a Turbot as ever I eat.

Aug. 24. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church this Afternoon. My Niece also walked to Church this Afternoon, and walked all the way without taking hold of anyone. She is much improved of late in her walking, thank God! She is making use of a Lotion brought from London by Mr. Walker.

Aug. 25. . . . Very busy were my People shearing Wheat all day.

Aug. 26. . . . Mr. Custance sent us a Shoulder of Venison this Morn. I was very indifferent all the Morning and very low, in the Evening was much worse and vomited a great deal, but a great deal easier after thank God. I took a small Dose of Rhubarb going to bed.

Aug. 27. . . . I thank God, was much better this morning tho' I had but a restless Night upon the whole of it. A Mr. Jas. Herring of Norwich and who keeps a Shop called on me this morning and desired that I would marry him and Miss Peachman to Morrow. We had the Shoulder of Venison for Dinner to day. There

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were but very few good Pieces about it. To a Qr of a Pd. of Tobacco from Cary's Shop pd. o. o. 8. More easy and pleasant thank God this Evening.

Aug. 28. . . . About 11 o'clock this Morning I took a walk to Weston Church and there married by Licence Jas. Herring of Norwich to Miss Peachman of this Parish. for which I recd. of Mr. Herring 2. 20 which I think was very handsome of him. It was a smart genteel Marriage 2 close Carriages with smart Liveries attended. Sheriff Buckle of Norwich and Mr. John Herring who was Sheriff of Norwich the last year and his Son, old Mr. Peachman, Mrs. John Herring, Mrs. Forster of this Parish, and a very pretty young Lady very neatly dressed, and attended as a Bride Maid and whose name was Miss Wingfield were at the Ceremony. The Bells rung merry after. Mr. Buckle Mr. Herring and Son and old Mr. Peachman returned with me on foot from Church to my House and eat some Cake and drank some Cyder &c. Mr. Peachman pressed me much to dine with them but I was not well enough to go into Company tho' thank God much better than I expected to be to day.

Aug. 29. . . . Finished my Wheat Harvest to day at Noon . . .

Sept. 1. . . . This Evening Mrs. Siddons from London, acts for the first time on the Norwich Theatre, she is to perform only for seven Nights and then returns. [Parson Woodforde, judging by the silence of subsequent entries, made no effort to see her.]

Sept. 2. . . . Finished Harvest this Evening.

Sept. 3. . . . Brewed a Barrell of small Beer to day.

Sept. 4. . . . To Largesses to day gave o. 2. 0. To a Boy that brought me half a Dozen quite black Turkies from Wells of Honingham gave o. o. 6. Mr. Jeanes

sent us a brace of Partridges this Morn'. by my Servant Man, Briton, whom I sent over to enquire how they all did. Mr. Custance also sent us a brace of Partridges this Even'.

Sept. 9. . . . To Largesses to day gave o. 3. o. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their Son Willm. drank Tea with us this Afternoon sans Ceremone.

Sept. 12. . . . Was rather indifferent this Morning, had but little Sleep in the Night—I believe it to be something of the Influenza. At 11 Mr. Du Quesne called here in his road to Priests, but did not stay above 15 minutes—At half past 11 Nancy and self went to Reepham—she in her little Cart with Briton and I on my Mare—as we went thro' Witchingham we called at Mr. Jeanes's and there stayed near an Hour. Heard Mr. Monro play on the Violencello, there is not perhaps a better Violencello player in the Kingdom. He is on a Visit at Mr. Jeanes's. Mrs. Jeanes we did not see being ill in bed; but as well as she can be considering all things after her fright. We saw Mr. Jeanes, Miss Short, and Major Loyd at Mr. Jeanes's. We got to Reepham by 2 o'clock and there dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Priest, their 2 Daughters Rebeccah and Mary, Mr. and Mrs Priest and their Son, John all from Norwich and Mr. Du Quesne. We had for dinner some boiled Beef very good, a Couple of Chicken rosted and a boiled Tongue, a Couple of rost Ducks, Plumb Tarts and Blamange. Peaches, Apples, Plumbs, and Nutts after Dinner. Red Wine and White both at and after Dinner. After Coffee and Tea about 6 o'clock or rather after we sat of from Reepham and got home before 8 very well and very safe thank God for the same.

Sept. 16. . . . To Largesses to day gave o. 1. o.

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To 2 Score of small Oysters pd. o. i. o. Old Mr. Thos. Robinson the Apparitor aged 76 Yrs. called at my House about 2 o'clock to inform me that the Generals will be held at Foulsham on Monday the 13 October next, I asked him to stay and take his Dinner here which he did.

Sept. 18. . . . To my Butchers Boy, Tom Younge, for taking care of a greyhound Puppy, late at my Butchers —gave 2—6. About 3 o'clock we went to Honingham Hall and there dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Townshend, Mrs. Cornwallis, Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Carter of Ringland. Mr. Du Quesne was so kind as to send his Chaise after my Niece, and I went on horseback thither. Mr. Townshend's Chaise brought her home. We had for Dinner some Hare Soup, a Couple of Chicken boiled and Ham —Some Beef Bulley, Stewed Pork—Partridges, a rosted Hare, Potted Beef, Tartlets, Maccaroni &c. After Coffee we played at Cribbage won o. i. o. We returned home about 9 o'clock.

Sept. 19. . . . Had a dead Cow from John Bakers this Evening.

Sept. 20. . . . Betsy Davy with Mr. Walker came here on horseback this morning before breakfast from Foulsham and they breakfasted, dined, supped and slept here. Betsy Davy slept with my Niece, and Mr. Walker in the little Tent-Bed in the Attics over me. We had for Dinner a boiled Chicken and Face, a boiled Leg Mutton and Capers, a rost Duck, and a Damson Tart with Rasberry Puffs &c. After Tea we got to Cards, to Whist, won 3. 6. Nancy lost at Whist 6 Shillings. I sent Briton early this Morning with my little Cart to Norwich after News &c. he returned by Dinner. It rained pouring from 4 this Afternoon all

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night. Nancy owes me at Cards—4^s. 6^d. Lent to her also for Cards o. 6.

Sept. 21. . . . Betsy Davy and Mr. Walker breakfasted with us and soon after they set forth for Foulsham, as they came to us on horseback, both single. Betsy Davy had My Niece's great Coat being cloudy. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church —None from Weston House at Church being wet.

Sept. 23. . . . My old Sow had 12 young Piggs—1 of them dead. I took a Walk to Weston House this Morning and I spent an Hour with Mrs. Custance and Children. I met Mr. Custance as I was returning from his House, and he turned back and went with me into Weston Field. I hired a new Boy to day by name Jⁿ Dalliday, he is to come to my House old Michaelmas Day.

Sept. 24. . . . Mrs. Davy and Daughter came to my House this Morn' about 11 o'clock, and they dined, supped and slept here. One Harris brought them in a Cart—he dined here—After Tea this Evening we got to Whist won o. 1. o which Nancy owes me. We had for Dinner to day some Skaite, a piece of boiled Beef, a Couple of Chickens rosted, and Tarts.

Sept. 25. . . . Nancy, Mrs. Davy and Betsy breakfasted here and as soon as they had done breakfast, they went off for Norwich in a Norwich Chaise from the Kings Head. And at 10 o'clock I mounted my Mare and sat off for the same place and my Servant Man Ben went with me to carry my Portmanteau. My Servant Man Briton went with the Chaise and sat with the Driver before the Chaise. Going into Norwich about a Mile from it I met Mr. Smith of Mattishall coming from Norwich we just spoke to each other and that was all.¹ Ben had my Mare back to Weston in the Aft. Mr.

¹ A coldness seems to have developed in Parson Woodforde's relations

Walker had taken Lodgings at Norwich at a Mr. Curtis's in St. Gregory's, for himself and Sister, my Niece and myself, and Mrs. Davy and Betsy—for which we are to give 2 Guineas and half—when I arrived at Norwich I found all the Ladies Heads dressed. At 4 o'clock we all went to the King's Head and there dined on some fresh Herrings, a rost Turkey, a Shoulder of Mutton rosted and some Tarts. A Mr. Townson a young Gentleman from London and an Acquaintance of Mr. Walkers ; Mr. Colin Roupe, and his Brother George also dined with us. Very soon after Dinner, Mrs. Davy and Betsy, Miss Walker and my Niece went in an Hackney Coach to St. Andrews Hall to hear the Concert this Evening. Mr. Walker and myself walked thither. The Tickets to the Miscellaneous Concert to Night were 7 Shillings and 6 pence each. Mrs. Custance being a Subscriber and having a transferable Ticket, was so kind as to lend my Niece hers for this Evening. Mr. Walker procured Tickets for the rest of us. He is to pay for Tickets, Coaches, Lodgings &c. and when finished Mr. Walker and self are to divide the expenses between us. A great deal of Company indeed at the Hall and full dressed—911 supposed to be present. The Concert was very fine indeed, and Madame Mara, the famous Singer, sung delightfully. I never heard so fine a Voice—Her Notes so high. The Kettle Drums from Westminster Abbey sounded charmingly, beat by a Mr. Ashbridge. Near 100 performers in the Orchestra. The Concert was over between 10 and 11 at Night but we were obliged to wait a full Hour before we could get to our Hackney Coach, so many Coaches before it and some an Hour

with Mr. Smith, possibly connected with the latter's affair with Mrs. Davy : see vol. ii *passim*, and specially entry for Feb. 18, 1786, p. 228.

after us. I went back with the Ladies in the Coach to our Lodgings and there we supped and slept. I dont know what our Company would have done without my Servant Briton, being with me. Saw at St. Andrews Hall this Evening and conversed with them Sr. Will^m. Jerningham, Sr. John Woodhouse, Captain Laton, Mr. Branthwaite, Major Lloyd, Mr. Press Custance, Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Jeanes, Mr. Bodham, Harry Smith of New College, Mr. Priest of Norwich and Son—&c.

Sept. 26. As I only laid down on the Bed last Night with some of my Cloaths, I got up pretty early (considering we did not go to bed till near 2 this morning) and I took a Walk in the City, went to Bacons and got Tickets for the Oratorio this morning at St Peters Church—went also to Browns my Barber and was shaved—paid him also for a new Wigg I had sometime back the sum of 1. 1. 0. Gave him also for dressing my Wigg &c. 0. 2. 6. Called at Beales and paid for Soals Aug. 6. 0. 3. 0. Then returned to my Lodgings to breakfast about 9, and there breakfasted with Mrs. Davy and Betsy, Miss Walker, my Niece, and Mr. Walker. Soon after breakfast, Mrs. Davy and Betsy, Miss Walker, my Niece, and Mr. Walker went in a Coach to St. Peters Church to the Oratorio of Judas Maccabeus,¹ I walked to the House of Mr. Priests and

¹ Composed by Handel in 1746 (produced in 1747) and dedicated to the Duke of Cumberland, the victor of Culloden in that year. It was the first of Handel's Oratorios to win popularity in England. Up to 1746-7 the great composer, despite the devoted patronage of George II and Queen Caroline, had had a difficult and depressing time in England, though Dublin, which he visited in 1741-2, and where the *Messiah* was first performed, received him rapturously. With *Judas Maccabeus* the tide set finally in his favour in England, and he died full of years and honour in 1759. See Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. ii, pp. 168-77; also foot-note, pp. 195-6, vol. ii of this Diary.

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there waited for Mr. Custance's Coach to return Mrs. Custance's Ticket to her, the Coach called about 11, with Mr. and Mrs. Custance in it, and I went with them to St. Peter's Church and there heard the fine Oratorio of Judas Maccabeus which was performed very capitally—Madame Mara also performed her part very well indeed. There was supposed to be present 1200 People. The Church was quite full, I got as near to my Party as I could. Mrs. Davy during the performance made some little disturbance, fainting away, but she soon came to herself again, quite a fine Air. Betsy Davy did not mind it at all, as she knows her well. The Oratorio was not over till 3 this Afternoon. We all walked back from St. Peters to our Lodgings and there I left them and went to the Wool-Pocket in St. Giles's, where my Servant Ben was waiting for me with my Horses. I then mounted my Mare, and went home with Ben to Weston did not get home till 6 o'clock this Evening and there dined, supped and slept at the Parsonage House. I thank God, got home safe and well after my Hurry without being either much fatigued or heavy. I left my Party at Norwich, as they all go to the Assembly this Evening in Chapel Field. I desired Mr. Walker to settle all Accounts at Norwich and that I would reckon with him at home. Gave the Servant Girl at the Lodgings o. r. o. I was highly entertained by the Musick both Days. Scarce ever seen so much Company at Norwich. Lodgings scarce to be got and some exceeding dear indeed—two Rooms it was said, was let at 10 guineas. Almost all the principal Families in the County there.

Sept. 27. . . . Between 2 and 3 o'clock this Afternoon there came to my House in a Post-Chaise from Norwich Mrs. Davy, Betsy, Miss Charlotte Quarles and

my Niece, and they all dined and spent the Afternoon here. After Tea Mrs. Davy with Miss Quarles went on in the Chaise to Foulsham. Betsy Davy was left at my House to spend a day or two with Nancy. Just as we had finished Dinner Mr. Walker came to us from Norwich and he dined and slept here, being very much fatigued by his late Hurry at Norw. As the Driver of the Chaise was given nothing going with them to Norwich or coming back—I gave him 3. 6. After Tea Betsy Davy and me played against Mr. Walker and Nancy at Whist at which—lost—1^s/0^d. We had for Dinner to day some fryed Soals a Leg of Mutton boiled and Caper Sauce, a Couple of Ducks rosted, and some Tarts &c. Mrs. Davy and Miss Quarles left us about 6 o'clock. After they were gone Mr. Walker and me settled our Norwich Accounts. The Expenses were as follows. Dinners at the Kings Head &c. 2. 12^s 2. Post Chaise from Norwich to Foulsham o. 18. o. Ditto from Weston to Norwich o. 10. o. Coach Hire in Norwich o. 16. o. Lodgings at Curtis's in St. Gregory's 2. 12. 6. Breakfasts, Suppers, and Dinner at the Lodgings 1. 10. 2¹₂. Tickets to the Hall at 7^s/6^d each 1. 17. 6. Tickets to the Church at 5/o each 1. 5. o. Sum total 12. 1. 4¹₂. Paid my Moiety to Mr. Walker 6. o. 6 that is, in Cash to him 4. 16. o. Tickets paid by me for the Church 1. 5. o. It was a dear Frolick but nevertheless I should have been sorry that my Niece had not went to it. It also gave me pleasure to attend at it, and would have given more to all parties if Mrs. Davy had not been so full of strange Vagaries expecting so much Court and Attention from everyone. There was not one of the Party pleased with her. We all went to bed in tolerable good time to night. Miss Charlotte Quarles is a great Beauty

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and exquisitely genteel without the least affectation but very affable and very agreeable.

Sept. 30. I breakfasted, dined &c again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Mrs Lombe with her Niece called here this morning in a single Horse Chaise, but did not get out of it. Mr. Walker came here about 4 o'clock and he spent the Afternoon, supped and slept here. After Tea this Evening we got to Whist—nothing lost.

Octob. 1. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home, Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Mr. Walker breakfasted, dined supped and slept here. Mr. Custance's last little Boy, Master Neville, died this Morning very early. The poor Infant was never well. After Tea this Evening we played at Whist lost 2. 0.

Oct. 2. . . . Mr. Walker went a hunting this Morning very early soon after 6 o'clock and we saw nothing more of him all Day. To one Nobbs of Mattishall who came on foot from thence with near a Bushl of Wall-nutts, as a present from Mr. Walker to my Niece gave o. i. o. Dr. Thorne called here this Morn' and stayed near an Hour with us, he invited us to Dinner on Tuesday next.

Oct. 3. . . . To a neat dressed Sailor and very well spoken Man by Name John Cole of Dublin, lately wrecked and only three of the Crewe saved gave him o. i. o. To one Score and 4 Oysters pd. o. i. o. Mr. Walker came here late this Evening between 9 and 10 or nearer 10 and he supped and slept here. It made it rather late before we got to bed near 12.

Oct. 4. . . . Mr. Walker drank Tea, supped and slept here again he went very early this Morning to Norwich and

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there dined and spent the Afternoon, came here abt. 6. Sent Ben early this morning with my Great Cart to Norwich with 4 Hampers and 159 empty Bottles for Mr. Priest, being the Number he sent with the Qr of the Pipe of Port, I had of him in June last. About 11 o'clock this Morning I walked to Church and there buried Master Neville Custance the last Child Mrs Custance was brought to bed of, it was always very ill. He was only 12 Weeks and 2 Days old. I recd. for burying him a black silk Hatband a pair of white gloves, and also wrapt up in paper 5. 5. o. The Child was buried by the side of the other two. Mr. Press Custance only attended the Funeral. I was but very indifferent all day, having had but very little rest the last two Nights. After Tea this Evening, Betsy Davy and self attacked Mr. Walker and my Niece at Whist won 2. o. I drank pretty freely of Port Wine to day, which seemed to do me much good, being much better.

Oct. 5. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Aft. at Weston Ch. None from Weston House at Church. Mr. Walker, Betsy Davy, and my Niece at Church this Aft. I also publickly christned a Child of Clybourne at Church.

Oct. 6. . . . Mr. Walker went very early this morning a hunting with Mr. Branthwaites Hounds. Killed a Pigg this Morning—weight 7 Stone 7 P^d. Dr. Throne called here this Morning but did not stay. Mr. Walker did not breakfast, dine, supp, or sleep here.

Oct. 7. . . . Betsy Davy breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' here. About 11 Nancy and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart and Briton with them to Mr. Thorne's at Mattishall and there they dined, supped and slept. The little Cart was left there as they return to Morrow.

Oct. 8. . . . The Barometer remarkably high this Morn-

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ing up to Number 30 = 4. Mr. Jeanes called on me this Morning just as I was going to Weston House, he stayed with me about $\frac{1}{2}$ Hour. Walked up to Weston House about 1 o'clock and spent an Hour with Mrs. Custance only, Mr. Custance being gone to the Sessions at Norwich. Mr. Walker, Betsy Davy, and my Niece came to my House about Dinner Time and they all dined supped and slept here by appointment. After Tea this Evening we got to Whist lost o. 1. o. We had for Dinner to day a Couple of boiled Chicken and a Tongue, a rost neck of Pork and a Bulley-Pye &c.

Oct. 9. . . . Nancy, Betsy Davy, and Mr. Walker break-fasted here, and soon after breakfast, Nancy with Betsy Davy and my Man Briton sat of in my little Cart for Foulsham to Mrs Davys. Mr. Walker went with them on horseback some of the way but does not intend to go throughout. Nancy is gone home with Betsy Davy to spend a few days with her and her Mother at Foulsham.

Octob. 10. . . . Very busy in my Garden all the Morning in making some Alterations removing some of the Clumps. Mrs. Custance with 3 of her Children called here this Morning but did not stay above $\frac{1}{2}$ an Hour. My Servant Boy, Charles Crossley, left my Service. this Afternoon p^d him $\frac{3}{4}$ Years Wages o. 15. 9. I gave him also his Cloaths he had of me.

Octob. 11. Mr. Walker called here this morning but did not stay he had been out with the hounds. Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich after News &c. He returned by dinner time. Received by him a long Letter from my Brother Heighes, who informs me that his Son Willm. is going to marry a Miss Jukes a fortune of £5000.¹

¹ See foot-note, p. 50, vol. ii.

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Oct. 12. . . I read Prayers and administred the H. Sacra-
ment this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs.
Custance both at Church and at the Sacrament. Gave
for an Offering at the Sacrament o. 2. 6. Received a
Letter by Mr. Custance's Servant this Morning from
my Sister Pounsett, by which I thank God I was in-
formed that she was better. My new Boy (John
Dalliday) came to me this Evening.

Oct. 13. . . Soon after breakfast I mounted my Mare
and sat of for Foulsham to the Generals there. Got
to Foulsham about 11 o'clock and went directly to
Church where Prayers were read by Mr. Atthill and
the Sermon by Mr. Wilson for Dr. Grimwood. We
dined at the Ship at Foulsham. The Arch-Deacon
did not attend being in Devonshire. Mr. Baker the
Official presided. The Clergy present were, Wilson,
Whitmill, Astley, Atthill, Priest, Jeanes, Jewel, Sandi-
ford, Crofts, Addison, Woodforde, Bryant Sen^r, Bryant
Jun^r, and a strange young Clergyman but little known.
We all dined together at the Ship, and a very good
dinner we had, boiled and rost Beef, boiled Chicken
and Ham, a Goose, Ducks, a nice Hare with plenty of
Dumplins, Puddings &c. Morphew Junr. and his
Clerk with Mr. Quarles and a little Boy of Jewels dined
with us. I met with Mr. Jeanes going to Foulsham
just at Major Lloyds. Mrs. Davy and Betsy with my
Niece at Church. I went after the Service to Mrs.
Davy's House with Mr. Priest and Mr. Whitmill and
spent half an Hour with them and the handsome
Charlotte Quarles. We each paid for our Dinner &c.
o. 2. 6. I paid also to Mr. Morphew for Mr. Carr of
Swannington he being absent o. 1. 0. I drank Coffee
and Tea at Mrs. Davy's, with her, and Daughter,
Miss Quarles, Miss Woodforde, Mr. Quarles and Mr.

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Bryant Sen^r and his Son. I sat of from Foulsham about 5 o'clock and got home safe and well, I thank God, by 7 o'clock. I send for My Niece Wednesday Morn' next.

Octob. 15. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning with my little Cart to Foulsham after my Niece. She returned about 3 o'clock thank God safe and well. She called at Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham on her return home and spent half an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes. Nancy dined, supped and slept at home.

Oct. 17. . . . Mr. Jeanes sent me this morning a large Hamper of common Apples, I sent the same Hamper back full of my Apples called Beefans with a great many Shrubs, Laurels &c. &c.

Octob. 19. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, churched a Woman and Christned a Child by name Elizabeth this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with 2 Children at Church. As was also my Niece, being a very fine Day. Returned the Mony rec'd for churching to the Woman. Mr. Jeanes's 2 Servants Alldin and Sally dined and spent the Afternoon with our Folks. Sally was never at Weston before to day. My Cow Betsy had a Bull Calf this Afternoon.

Oct. 20. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes of Witchingham. Mr. Du Quesne walked to my House this Morning and then went with us in Mr. Custances Coach, and returned with us in the same about 10 o'clock and then went home in his own Chaise afterwards. What made it so late, was that we waited for the Moon. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes returned home before Tea. After Tea at Mr. Custances this Afternoon we got to Loo at which I lost o. 4. 6. Nancy won at Loo this Evening o. 6. 0.

Mrs. Jeanes was dressed very shabby indeed, and talked high and very affectedly—great Airs. We had for Dinner some White Soup, Fish, rost Leg of Mutton—Veal Collops and Oysters, boiled Chicken and a Tongue—2nd Course 3 rost Partridges, a rost Duck, Damson Puddings, preserved Pippins, Tartlets &c. It made it rather late before we got to bed, but before 12. Mr. Walker called at my House about 3 o'clock and left for me in a old fashioned Tobacco Stopper an Indian Smoaking.

Oct. 21. . . . About 5 o'clock this Afternoon Betsy Davy came to our House from Foulsham in a Market Cart and she stayed, and supped and slept here. Her Mother was sent after by express this morning for Pulham, old Mrs. Collin being supposed to be dying.

Oct. 23. . . . Mr. Walker called here this morning, about 11 o'clock and he dined, supped and slept here. After Tea this Evening we got to Whist, Betsy Davy and me against Mr. Walker and Nancy. lost o. 1. o.

Oct. 24. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. He went out a hunting this morning and returned about 4 o'clock this Afternoon. At Whist again this Evening lost o. 1. o. Betsy Davy not quite so well this Even' having the Heart-Ache or pain at her heart. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes with Miss Short made us a short morning Visit.

Oct. 25. . . . Soon after breakfast Mr. Walker drove out my Niece and Betsy Davy in my little Cart to Mr. Thornes at Mattishall and returned home to dinner. After Tea this Evening again we played at Whist and we lost each of us—o. 2. o. It was 12 by my upper clock before I got to bed this Evening and so for many Nights best part.

Oct. 27. . . . Mr. Walker went out early this Morning

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a hunting and did not return the whole day. Poor Betsy Davy could eat no Supper and obliged to go to bed, her heart ached so very much. Mr. Walker sent over a Messenger from Mattishall this Evening to inform us that he sleeps at Mattishall.

Oct. 28. . . . Nancy breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' at home. Betsy Davy breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' here. Mr. Walker came here this Morning between 10 and 11 o'clock, stayed about half an Hour and then went in my little Cart with Betsy Davy and my Niece to Foulsham where they are to dine, sup, and sleep for this night only and to return home to dinner to Morrow by 3 o'clock. I gave them a Chicken to carry with them for dinner. Mrs. Davy is at Pulham as yet and expected to stay there. Mr. Townshend with his eldest Daughter both on horseback called here this morning about 12 but did not get off from their horses. They went from my House to Weston House. The Widow Case waited on me this Morning and paid me the remaining money due from her late Husband to me for the last Year 1. 5. 0. I paid her out of it for 400 green Walnuts 2. 0. Sent to each of my neighbouring Families a two Bushel Basket of Apples (called Beefans) viz. to John Clarkes, Will Richmonds, Jⁿ Nortons, Robt. Downings, Ricd^d Bucks, Nath. Heavers, and John Peachmans. I caught Paul Bowden this evening lopping an Ashen Tree of mine—gave him a Lecture and told him to take care for the future.

Oct. 29. . . . At Mr. Cary's Shop, for Tobacco and Snuff pd. o. o. 9. Recd. this morning by Mr. Custance's Servant Richd. brought by him from Norwich from the Post Office a gilt Card enclosed in a Cover from Mr. and Mrs Coke of Holkham, containing an Invita-

tion to me and my Niece the fifth of November next to a Ball and Supper at Holkham. The Card was printed all but our Names and in these words. Mr. and Mrs Coke desire the honour of Mr. and Miss Woodford's Company the 5th of November, at eight o'clock to a Ball and Supper, in Commemoration of the glorious Revolution of 1688. Holkham, Oct. 1788. The Favour of an Answer is desired. My Servant, Briton, paid for the same o. o. 8. N.B. a general Invitation throughout the County.¹ Mr. Walker with my Niece and Betsy Davy returned home to Weston about 3 o'clock this Afternoon ; and they dined, supped and slept here. At Whist this Evening won o. 1. o.

Oct. 30. . . . Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy rode out a hunting this morning before Dinner. Dr. Thorne and Wife, Miss Walker and a Miss Kate Lloyd, dined and spent the Aft. here. They went home before Tea being no Moon. Miss Lloyd sung many Songs, she has a very fine Voice indeed. We had for Dinner Ham and Chicken, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, a rost Pigg, Pudding and Tarts and Tartlets. At Whist this Evening won o. 5. o. To one Bushel of Golden Pippins of Case pd. o. 2. o.

Nov. 1. Immediately after breakfast, Mr. Walker, Betsy Davy and Nancy sat off for Norwich and Briton went with them on horseback. Nancy and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart, and Mr. Walker on horseback a mad Scheme. Nancy sent a Letter to her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde. I sent an Answer also to Mr. Cokes Card. I privately baptized a Child of Nobbs's this

¹ For Coke of Norfolk see foot-note, p. 127, vol. ii. He was, throughout his life, a devoted Whig, and it is natural and pleasant to find him celebrating the centenary of the Revolution which displaced James II in favour of William III, Queen Mary, and constitutional monarchy.

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morning at my House by name William. It was near 5 o'clock this Afternoon before we went to Dinner, not returning from Norwich sooner. I was just sat down to Dinner by myself when they came. I was rather angry about it. After Tea we got to Whist lost o. i. o.

Nov. 2. . . . Mr. Thorne of Kimberly sent Mr. Walker this Morn' a handsome Spaniel brown and white, and shaggy, by name Brusher, which Mr. Walker gave to me and I sent a little Spaniel Bitch by name Venus back to Mr. Thorne by way of exchange. I read Prayers and Preached and publickly presented a Child in the Church this Afternoon at Weston Church. Neither Mr. or Mrs Custance at Church this Aft. Nancy, Betsy Davy, and Mr. Walker were at Church.

Nov. 3. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted, and spent most of the Morn' with us, and at half past 12, went of for Norwich in one of the Kings Head Chaises as he goes for London this Afternoon in one of the Mail Coaches. Who should come in the Kings Head Chaise from Norwich but Nunn Davy Betsy's Brother who is just returned from out of Yorkshire where he has been for the last 3 Years. He looked sharp and well and went back with Mr. Walker to Norwich after staying about $\frac{1}{2}$ Hour as he is going to Pulham to see his Mother. Between 9 and 10 o'clock this Evening Mr. Walker returned to us from Norwich having put of going to London till after the 5th of November, and he supped and slept here again. Grand Works to be at Norwich the 5 Instant. We made it late going to bed to night. My poor old Spaniel Bitch Mab was hung this Morn' she being very old and almost blind. I had her hanged out of Charity.

Nov. 5. . . . Soon after breakfast (young Rose called here and desired me to lend him my Greyhounds, having

found a Hare sitting) Mr. Walker and self took a Walk with the Greyhounds and saw the Hare coursed which gave great Sport indeed, but was killed at last. I never saw a better Course. I let Mr. Rose have the Hare for a Friend of his. After we had killed that Hare we went after another and found one in about an Hour, but we had very little Diversion with her, the Greyhounds scarcely seeing her, She soon got of. Saw never another tho' we stayed out till 3 o'clock. Mr. Walker almost knocked up by walking so long, we were out from 11 till 3 in the Afternoon. Whilst we were out again this Morning Mrs. Custance with 3 Children called at the Parsonage, and spent an Hour with my Niece and Betsy Davy. Mrs. Custance brought a brace of Partridges for us. After Tea again this Evening we got to Whist, Partners the same, Betsy mine, Nancy Mr. Walkers and we beat them again won o. 1. 6. So that Nancy owes me now o. 17. 0. Very fine Evening tho' cold for the Holkham Jubilee.

Nov. 6. I breakfasted, dined, &c again at home.

Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home
Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. again here.

Mr. Walker breakfasted here and soon after he had breakfasted, he mounted his Horse and sat of for Norwich and there he dined and spent the Afternoon but returned to us in the Evening about 7 o'clock or rather after.

To Ben this Evening for things pd. . 1. 1. 4½

To Briton ditto do. pd. . 0. 4. 1

To Betty ditto do. pd. . 0. 11. 4

Mr. Walker supped and slept here again. He rode from Norwich here in about 3 Qrs. Hour. He went to bed long before us being tired &c.

Nov. 7. . . About 3 o'clock Mr. Walker, Nancy, Betsy

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Davy, and self went to Weston House and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs Custance, Mr. Press Custance, S^r Thomas and Lady Beauchamp, Mr. George Beauchamp and Mr. Lemon a Clergyman. After Coffee and Tea this Evening we got to Cards, 2 Tables, one Table at Commerce, the other at Whist. I was at the latter and Mr. Lemon was my Partner against S^r Thomas and Lady Beauchamp, we played 2 Rubbers at 1^s/0^d Whist lost 0. 8. 0. We returned home about 9 o'clock as we went in Mr. Custances Coach. We had for Dinner, Some Fish, Ham and Chicken, Giblets, Piggs Fry, Saddle Mutton roasted, boiled Beef on the side Table &c. 2nd Course Hare rosted, a Pheasant do. Snipes do. &c. Madeira, Cherry, Claret and Port Wines. Lent Mr. Walker at Cards 0. 2. 6. S^r Thos. and Lady Beauchamp talked a good deal to Mr. Walker being some Relation to Lady B. We did not get to bed till after 12 o'clock as it is the last Night of Mr. Walker being with us.

Nov. 8. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted, and spent the Morning with us, and at 1 o'clock set of for Norwich to go in the Mail Coach this Afternoon at 4 for London.

Nov. 10. . . . I walked to Church this morning about 11 o'clock and married Ross Beans and Eliz. Pratt by Banns—recd. for the same only 0. 2. 6 having before recd. half a Crown. Very fair and fine and warm all Day like Summer.

Nov. 11. . . . Two Men from Hockering by names, Bugdale and Ames, called here this Morning to see 8 Piggs, Shots of mine which I have to sell, I asked 10 Pound for them, they offered me 8 Pound. I then told them that they should have them at 9 P. but they would not give that, so we parted. Brewed a Barrel of small Beer to day. Reported this Day at Norwich

that our good King was dead, pray God it might not be true.¹

Nov. 13. . . . About 2 o'clock I took a ride and Briton with me to Mr. Du Quesnes and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes, Miss Davy and Miss Woodforde, the 2 latter went and returned with Mr. and Mrs. Custance in their Coach. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards. I lost 0. 1. 6. We had for Dinner Cod and Oyster Sauce, boiled Chicken and Piggs face, a Saddle of Mutton rosted and Roots—2nd Course a brace of rost Pheasants, 1 duck rosted, the Charter &c. We returned home about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 o'clock and on our return found Mr. Walker at Weston Parsonage, who is returned from London in pursuit of his Portmanteau which is at present lost. He supped and slept here.

¹ It was on Nov. 5 that George III's illness, insanity, declared itself beyond all possibility of question. During his illness the king resided for the most part at Kew Palace, being moved there from Windsor on Nov. 29. The king's physicians, Dr. Warren and Sir George Baker, took a somewhat gloomy view of the case, but a doctor of genius in the treatment of insanity, Dr. Willis (who was also a parson), predicted a rapid recovery. Dr. Willis was right: early in Feb. 1789 the king became much better, and on Feb. 27 bulletins were discontinued. Parson Woodforde says nothing of the political crisis to which the king's illness gave rise: Fox supporting the Regency claims of the Prince of Wales, who had identified himself with the Opposition and would have called Fox to office, while Pitt played for time, and a Regency limited in its powers by Parliamentary enactment. Pitt had public feeling with him, as it was well known that the king and the Prince of Wales were estranged, and George III had, since the overthrow of the Fox-North coalition in 1783-4, become immensely popular. His illness aroused deep and widespread sympathy. Parson Woodforde's touching prayer of thanksgiving for the king's recovery (Mar. 8 entry), and the rejoicings in Norwich and the neighbourhood (Mar. 18 entry), illustrate in a vivid way the profound relief and gratitude which the king's recovery caused throughout the kingdom. For full particulars of the crisis of the king's illness, and the Regency business, see Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. v, pp. 379-452.

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He came in a Post-Chaise from Norwich, which went down to Lenewade Bridge with the Driver, and to take up Mr. Walker to Morrow Morn' back to Norw. The report this Day, is, that his Majesty is better.

Nov. 14. . . . After breakfast Nancy, and Betsy Davy would go to Norwich with Mr. Walker, and there they dined at the Kings Head and returned home to Tea about 6 o'clock and Mr. Walker instead of going to London as proposed returned with them. A pretty expensive and foolish Scheme indeed—I was not pleased. To Neighbour Case for Pork at $4\frac{1}{2}$ pd.
o. 2. 3. After Tea this Evening we got to Whist lost
o. 3. o. The News relating to the Kings Health this Day at Norwich, was, that he remains near the same, by no means better—still in the greatest danger. Mr. Walker paid me what I lent him at Cards o. 2. 6.

Nov. 15. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted here and then sat of for Norwich in my little Cart and Briton with him, who is to bring back News &c. Mr. Walker goes by the Mail Coach this Aft. for London. Briton returned about 5 o'clock this Afternoon. Brought me a Letter from my Sister Pounsett to let us known that Nancys Brother William was gone of with Miss Jukes to be married, and that they were at Portland Island. Briton also said that Mr. Walker did not go to London this Day neither, and that he would return to my house again this Evening, which he did to Supper and also slept here again. It was after 12 before I got to bed this Night. Mr. Walker brought us a brace of Pheasants.

Nov. 16. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church—none from Weston House at Church. Nancy, Betsy Davy, and Mr. Walker also from Church. I prayed at Church for our most

gracious and truly beloved Sovereign King George the third. I did it out of my own head, no prayer yet arrived.

Nov. 17. . . . Mr. Walker went out a hunting this morning and did not return to us till near 6 o'clock this Evening. At Whist this Evening lost o. 1. 6. So that Nancy owes me now only o. 12. 6.

Nov. 18. . . . Soon after breakfast Mr. Walker took a ride to Norwich to take a place in the Mail Coach for this Afternoon for London—but he returned to us this Evening between 7 and 8 o'clock and it being very dark, he hired a Man to come with him on another horse—Joe at the Kings Head. After Joe had refreshed himself and Horse also he returned back to Norwich. Mr. Walker said that there was no Place in the Coach but all that is nothing, his inclination was to stay. Betsy Davy's Birth Day now 18 Years of Age.

Nov. 19. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted here, and then sat off once more for Norwich to go in the Mail Coach this Afternoon for London—I still think it rather dubious where [whether?] he goes or not this Day. On his taking leave he went up to Nancy and wished her well shaking her by her hand, and then went to Betsy and did the same, but to me (altho' in the Room at the same time) he never said one word or took the least notice of me (tho' I also helped him on with his great Coat) after he was mounted and just going out of the great Gates then he said good Morning and that was all—very slight return for my Civilities towards him of late and which I did not expect. It hurt me very much indeed. Mr. Walker did not return however this Day to us.

Nov. 20. . . . To one Platten of Hockering sold 8 fine Piggs, littered in April last for 8. 8. o. I gave him for good luck out of it—o. 1. o. Mr. Jeanes made us a

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morning Visit and brought us some fine Prawns just arrived from Hants. Miss Woodforde rather pert this morning.

Nov. 21. . . . Mr. Walkers Birth-Day now 21 Years of Age.

Nov. 22. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich after News and other things from thence, he returned about Dinner time. No Letters for us. Betsy Davy had a Letter from Mr. Walker from Thetford and with it a Parcel in which was nothing but a Fox's Brush or Tail.

Nov. 23. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church—I read a Prayer also at Church (which I recd. Yesterday from our Churchwardens) for the recovery of our most gracious and truly beloved King from his present bad State of health, a violent Fever which at present affects his brain very materially, but in no great danger of depriving him of Life at present, as his Physicians declare, S^r George Baker, Dr. Warren &c. Mr. and Mrs. Custance, my Niece and Betsy Davy were at Church this morning.

Nov. 24. . . . Went out a coursing this morning but saw no Hare. Nancy and Betsy Davy walked up to Weston House this morning being fine and pleasant and spent the Morning with Mrs. Custance, but returned to Dinner. About 5 o'clock this Afternoon Nun Davy from Pulham came here on horseback and he drank Tea, supped and slept here. Washing Week.

Nov. 25. . . . Nun took a ride to Foulsham to see his Mothers Lodgings there and do some Errants for her, and he returned to Dinner by 3 o'clock. Nancy and Betsy Davy took a ride in my little Cart to Witchingham to make a Morning Visit to Mrs. Jeanes. They returned home to dinner.

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Nov. 26. . . . Nunn Davy breakfasted and spent most of the Morning with us, but at 12 o'clock he went off for Norwich in his road to Pulham, from whence he goes to Morrow to Yoxford to his Master's a Mr. Denny who is a Surgeon and Apothecary there—to whom he was apprenticed last Week—Yoxford is in Suffolk.

Nov. 27. . . . Sent Ben round this morning to my Parishioners to let them know that my Tithe Audit will be on Tuesday next at my House. Ben returned about 4 o'clock this Aft. completely wound up, eat no Dinner but went directly to sleep in a Chair and there laid till near 8.

Dec. 1. . . . A Mr. Bird, Land Surveyor from Norwich, and a Mr. Sendall a Gentleman Farmer of E. Tuddenham called here this Morning to look over the College Land that I have in hand of the late Mr. Le Neve's, I went with them and shewed them all that I paid Rent for to the Le Neve Family. Mr. Sendall drank a glass of Brandy and Mr. Bird drank some table Beer this Morning here. N.B. Mr. Branthwaites Hounds, with him and a good many Gentlemen with him went all thro' my Field, called the Cover, next to my Garden this morning about 12 o'clock, and the Hare just before the Hounds all in full View.

Dec. 2. . . . This Day being my Tithe Audit, the following People dined, spent the Afternoon and stayed till after one in the Morning at my House, after paying me their respective Dues—Stephen Andrews, Jⁿ Buck, John Mann Jun^r. Willm. Bidewell, Js. Pegg, Thos. Reynolds, Henry Case, Jonas Silvy, Willm. Herring, Joseph Forster, James Pratt, Charles Hardy, Jⁿ Baker, Henry Rising, John Girling, Willm. Howlett, Thos. Cary, John Greaves, Robert Emeris, John Peachman, Jⁿ Heavers, and John Norton—Mr. Peachman came

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after Dinner. I gave them for Dinner, a large Piece of boiled Beef, a Surloin of Beef rosted, a boiled Leg of Mutton, Some Salt Fish, a Couple of boiled Rabbits and Onions, with 4 large plumb Puddings besides plain. They were all highly pleased with my strong Beer which this Year was remarkably good indeed. There was drank besides 3 large Bowls of Punch each of which Bowls had 2 Bottles of Rum in it, so that there were six Quart Bottles of Rum made use of in Punch—and also ten Bottles of Port Wine. Mr. Peachman, Mr. Girling, Mr. Herring, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Rising Junr. drank a dish of Tea about 7 o'clock with my Niece, Betsy Davy and me in my study. Everything passed of exceedingly well, all agreeable and all went away, tho' late very well pleased. I recd. to day for Tithe, about 259. 7. 6. It was near 3 in the Morn' before I got to bed, as we did not go to Supper till after they were gone. Paid Stephen Andrews for Carriage of two Loads of Coal from Norwich o. 10. 0. Paid also to Mr. Mann for 1 Load Do. o. 5. 0.

Dec. 3. . . . We did not breakfast before 11 o'clock this Morning nor dine till after 4 o'clock this Afternoon. Mrs. Jeanes came here this morning about 12 and stayed till after 2 o'clock—she wanted very much to carry Nancy and Betsy Davy back with her in her Carriage to Witchingham to stay a few days with her, but I was very much against it, as they had no previous notice of it. Therefore Mrs. Jeanes returned back without them but much dissatisfied with me on the Account. A great deal of Snow fell this Morn'—bitter cold. Barnard Dunnell called on me this Afternoon and paid me for Tithe 2. 2. 0.

Dec. 5. . . . Ben went out with my Greyhound after a

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Hare before I was up, and by breakfast brought me home a fine Hare. Billy Bidewell and Johnny Reeves returning home with him, breakfasted here. After breakfast sent Ben with a Note from Mr. Jeanes to Mr. Du Quesne to be left at Mouse's House and to be carried from thence to Mr. Du Quesnes by Nan Purple who lives at Mouses House. Ben went on foot and took a Greyhound with him, and he returned by dinner with another Hare.

Dec. 6. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich on horseback after News &c. He returned home to dinner with the same. Betsy Davy had a Parcel and a Letter from Mr. Walker in Town. The Parcel contained a very handsome red Morocco Almanack and Pocket Book, gilt with a silver Clasp to the same—quite new fashioned. Nancy also had a Letter from Mr. Walker and a Barrel of Oysters sent her by him also.

Dec. 8. . . . About one o'clock My Niece and Betsy Davy went in my little Cart and Briton with them to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham to spend a few Days. Briton returned with the Cart to Dinner. To my Servant Man, Ben Leggatt, this Morning for 3 Weeks different reckonings pd. 1. 3. 1. To my Maid Betty Dade, for my Audit gave 2. 6. To my Maid Nanny Haye, for Ditto gave 2. 6. To my Man, Bretingham Scurl, for Do. gave 2. 6. To my Man, Ben Leggatt for Do. gave 1. 0. I used to give my Boy a Shilling but he made himself so beastly drunk that Day, that I gave him nothing.

Dec. 11. . . . Mr. Palmer, my Malster, called on me this Morning and I paid him a Bill for Malt &c. of 20. 13. 6. Soon after him, Charles Cary called here and I paid him a Bill for Shoes &c. of 0. 17. 1. Mr. Custances Servant brought me a Note soon after to desire our Com-

pany on Monday next at Weston House to partake of a Swan. The Servant went on immediately to Mr. Du Quesnes and to call here for an Answer as he returned back. As I was writing an Answer to Mr. Custance's Note Mr. Custance came walking to my House and stayed with me till after 2 o'clock near an Hour and $\frac{1}{2}$. As Mr. Custance was going away, Mr. Du Quesne called here in his Carriage in his way to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham stayed about 10 Minutes and then both went—Mr. Custance went with Mr. D. Q. in his Carriage part of his way home being on foot. I was invited to Mr. Jeanes's also to eat Venison with Mr. Du Quesne, but beg to be excused on Account of the disagreeable returning at Night at this Time. Mr. and Mrs. Custance were also invited, but cannot go.

Dec. 12. . . . Sent Briton about Noon with my little Cart to Witchingham after Betsy Davy and my Niece, but Briton came back without them, as they were going with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes to dine to day at Mr. Priest's of Reepham to meet Mr. Du Quesne. I had a nice Hare provided for them for Dinner had they returned and which I fully expected. I took a Walk to Weston House this Morn' to ask Mr. and Mrs. Custance to meet Mr. Du Quesne to Morrow at Dinner at Weston Parsonage—but they were engaged. I did not see either Mr. or Mrs. Custance, the former being out, and Mrs. Custance but poorly above Stairs. I stayed about half an Hour with the little Folks. To a poor Boy of Harry Dunnell's, that had the misfortune to have an Arm and Leg broke last Summer by a Gill¹ going over him gave o. o. 6. He is, I thank God

¹ Apparently a machine for preparing flax or hemp, and for combing and spinning long wool. See *N.E.D.*

got bravely, but his Leg a little awry. To my Servant Man, Briton, for things pd. o. 5. 4. To my Maid, Betty, for ditto pd. o. 3. 7. I desired Briton to give my Compts. to Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes and should be glad of their Company to Dinner to Morrow to meet Mr. Du Quesne, but Mr. Jeanes said that he would not—being in a Passion, or would ever again, as I did not dine with him Yesterday on a Haunch of Venison. Had it been mild open Weather I would have went—but I cannot bear the Idea of riding out and back in the Evening in hard frosty Weather.

Dec. 13. . . . Mr. Cary going to Norwich to day, did not send a Servant after News &c. as he is to bring the same. A little before 3 o'clock this afternoon, Mr. D. Quesne with Miss Davy and my Niece came to my House, in Mr. Priest's Carriage of Reepham, from whence Mr. Du Quesne came this Morning and called at Witchingham and took up Betsy Davy and Nancy and brought them home to Weston Parsonage. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner a boiled Chicken, and Tongue, some Minced Veal, hashed Hare, a fine Leg of Mutton roasted and some Tarts &c. After Tea we got to Cards, at Whist lost o. 1. o. Mr. Du Quesne went home in his own Carriage which came after him between 8 and 9 o'clock. Nancy and Betsy Davy dined, supped and slept here. Mr. Du Quesne was much dissatisfied at sleeping one Night at Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham. The Lodging was so intolerably hard that he had little or no rest the whole Night. Mr. Priests Coachman and Boy eat a bit of cold meat drank some Beer, had each a Dram, being very cold and then went back with the Carriage home. Mr. Jeanes quite displeased at my not dining with him on Thursday last on an

Haunch of Venison. Nancy and Betsy Davy were glad to return home again.

Dec. 15. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon, and stayed till 9 in the Evening at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Carter of Ringland—more Company were invited but the Weather so extremely severe that they beg to be excused. It was agreed by almost all that this Day was one of the coldest that ever was felt, the Wind so high and the frost so intense—scarce hot by the fire. Mr. Du Quesne called here in his Carriage as he went to Weston House—and stayed with us till Mr. Custances Coach came after us. We had for Dinner some Peas Soup, a fine Swan rosted and sweet Sauce with it, Giblets, Mutton Stakes, Partridge Pye,—Turkey rosted, and 4 Snipes, Pudding, Brawn &c. &c. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, Loo at which I lost about o. 5. o. It was near 10 before we got to Supper to night and 12 before we got to bed.

Dec. 18. . . . Nancy's Pigg that was killed Yesterday weighed 7 Stone all but one Pound.

Dec. 20. . . . Mrs. Custance with her two Sons Hambleton and George who are just returned home from School, made us a long morning Visit. They both looked well, but George has Childblains on one foot. Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart, after News &c. he returned abt. 4. Received a Letter by him from Mr. Walker in which he mentions having sent me 2 Gallons of English Gin, but he mentioned nothing of when it was sent, by what Conveyance, or where left.

Dec. 21. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston C. Also gave Notice of the H. Sacrament to be administered on Thursday next being Xmas Day.

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None from Weston House at Church this Morn' being bitter cold Frost with high Wind and Snow. Very small Congregation at Church this Morn'. It was intensely cold on my return from Church with high Wind and Snow. It was very penetrating. Betsy Davy almost lame in both feet by Childblains. Nancy also complained of something similar—they both by my desire had some white worsted Stockings of mine to put on, and to leave of their cotton ones. Betsy Davy found the first effects of it at Mr. Jeanes's when at Witchingham—so very cold there.

Dec. 22. . . . Yesterday being St. Thomas, the poor People came to my House for their Xmas Gifts this Morning. To 56 poor People of my Parish at 6^d each gave 1. 8. 0. Harry Baker my Butcher called on me this Morn' and I paid him for Meat from Dec. 6, 1787 to Decem^{br} 6, 1788 the Sum of 39. 11. 0. Recd. of Ditto for a Calf &c. 1. 15. 8.

Dec. 23. . . . To Mr. Ames my Cooper, paid a Bill of o. 18. 6. Just as we were going to Dinner a Man came express from the Kings Head at Norwich, with a Letter for Betsy Davy from Mr. Walker at London to desire her to meet him at Norwich at the Kings Head on Christmas Day next Thursday and that Nancy would accompany her. He mentioned in his Letter that he had ordered a Post-Chaise from the Kings head to be at my House for them in the Morning. Very wild, unsteady, and thoughtless Work indeed.

Dec. 24. . . . This being Christmas Eve I had my Parlour Windows dressed of as usual with Hulver-boughs well seeded with red-Berries, and likewise in Kitchen.

Dec. 25. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church being Xmas Day. For an Offering at the H. Sacrament gave

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o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the H. Sacrament. Before I went to Church this Morning Nancy and Betsy Davy went of in a Norwich Chaise which came to my House by 7 o'clock this morning for Norwich to meet Mr. Walker at the Kings Head, and there they dined, but returned home to Tea in the Afternoon and Mr. Walker with them. Mr. Walker supped and slept here. Js. Smith, my Clerk, Thos. Cary, Thos. Carr, Richd. Buck, John Peachman, and Nath. Heavers had their Christmas Dinner and each 1^s/0^d—o. 6. o. Poor old Richd. Buck and old John Peachman being both Lame, could not come to my House to dinner, so I sent their Dinner to them, &c. Sent also a Dinner to the poor Girl Betty Deeker.

Dec. 26. . . . To my Miller Mr. Forster, by Mr. Wade who is a Partner with Mr. Frost for Flour pd. 4. 19. o. To my Wheelwrights Son a Xmas Gift o. 1. o. Short's Son of Honingham. Mr. Walker went to Mr. Thornes at Mattishall about 1 o'clock where he is to dine to day. Mr. Thorne sent over an Horse for him. He returned to us in the Evening at Tea Time. After Tea we got to Whist lost o. o. 6. So that Nancy owes now but o. 12. o.

Dec. 27. . . . To poor old Mrs. Case having lost an Horse gave o. 5. o. Sent Ben to Norwich this Morning early after News &c. he returned by Dinner and brought a Letter for my Niece from her brother Willm. in which he mentions that he was married to Miss Anne Jukes the 16 of November last at Portland Chapel by a Mr. Paine. Willm. was at Mr. Pounsetts when he wrote with his Wife on a Visit for some Days. Nancy was pleased to hear the News as was Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy. We drank their Healths. After Tea we got to Cards lost o. 4. 6. So that Nancy owes me

now but o. 7. 6. Very severe Frost indeed with Wind and Snow.

Dec. 28. . . . Mr. Walker breakfasted at my House and at 12 went off for Norwich in a Chaise from Norwich and there dined at the Kings Head, and in the Evening returned back to us in the same Chaise and he supped and slept here again. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church as it snowed most part of the Day and otherwise intensely cold, being a severe Frost also and Wind high. It froze very sharp within doors all last Night and this Day. I had but a small Congregation at Church this Aft. Recd. for publishing Banns this Aft. o. 2. 6.

Dec. 31. I breakfasted, dined &c again at home.

Nancy breakfasted, dined &c again at home.

Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined &c here again.

Mr. Walker breakfasted, dined &c again here.

The coldest Night I ever felt (I think) in my Life and this Morning also the coldest with high Wind and Small Snow. It froze and still freezes sharply almost in every place in my House. The Thermometer was the lowest I ever remember, down to 46 this Morning, tho' it stands in my Study. Paid to Mr. Vassar this Morning for some new Pavements for my Kitchen, a Bill of 3. 3. 6. Mr. Walker sent John Norton very early this Morn' to Norwich on foot, to order a Chaise to Morrow Morning to be at my House early, to carry him to Norwich that he might go for London in the Aft. At Cards, this Evening lost o. 4. 6. So that Nancy owes me now but o. 5. 0. This being the last Day of the Year we did not go to bed till after 12 to Night. We drank all our Friends everywhere wishing a happy New Year.

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Jan^{ry} 1st. . . About 12 Mr. Walker went to Norwich in a Chaise that he had ordered from thence. To Jⁿ Short, Wheelwright pd a Bill of 1. 18. 9. To Robt. Buck, Blacksmith of Honingham pd. 0. 6. 9. Mr. Walker returned to us by Tea time this Aft. At Cards this Evening won 0. 2. 0. So that Nancy owes me now 0. 7. 0. Bitter cold this Evening and a very hard Frost. N.B. Fox's Brush &c. made me quite sick and tired.

Jan^{ry} 2. . . Mr. Custance came to us this Morning on foot and spent above an Hour with us—tho' so bitter cold. I slept but indifferent last night, so bitter cold. After Tea we got to Cards—nothing lost or won. As cold today as it has been yet. . . Mr. Walker's Cough somewhat better. Nancy, Betsy Davy, and Mr. Walker are all confederate against me and am never let into any of their Schemes or Intentions &c. Nancy I think ought not to be so to me.

Jan^{ry} 3. . . Did not get to bed till near 1 o'clock—being very uneasy. The treatment I meet with for my Civility this Christmas is to me abominable.

Jan^{ry} 4. . . Mr. Walker breakfasted, and spent the Morn' here. At 12 he went from my House in a Chaise for Norwich to go for London this Afternoon. I read Prayers and Preached this Morn' at Weston Ch. None from Weston House at Church had a very small Congregation, it being so intensely cold. I never felt the cold so much in my Life before. It froze the whole Day long within Doors and very sharp. The Barometer in my Study very high 30 = 5. The Thermometer in Ditto very low—48. The Air very clear and very piercing.

Jan. 6. . . Bitter cold day again with high wind, it froze

in all parts of the House. Sent Ben round my Parish with some money to the Poor People this severe Weather, chiefly those that cannot work at this time, some 1 Shilling apiece—some at 1^s/6^d apiece. In all, Ben gave for me this Day 1. 14. 6.

Jan. 8. . . . To Holland the Chimney-Sweeper, for Sweeping my Study, Parlour, Kitchen, Back-Kitchen, Study-Chamber and Parlour Chamber Chimnies paid him 4 at 1^s/0^d and 2 at 6^d—o. 5. o. Gave to his Son, Frank, Xmas Gift o. 1. o.

Jan. 12. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again.

Paid all my Servants their Wages this Morning.

To my Servant Maid, Betty Dade, a Yrs.

Wages	5.	5.	o
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To my Servant Maid, Nanny Haye, Do.		5.	5.	o
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To my Servant Man, Bretingham Scurl,									
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Do.	8.	o.	o
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To my Servant Man, Ben. Leggatt, Do.		10.	o.	o
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To my Servant Boy, J ⁿ Dalliday, a Qrs.									
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Wages	o.	10.	6
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Very severe Frost again and very cold, froze very fast within Doors this Morning, also a very thick Mist.

Jan. 13. . . Last Night and this Morning the Weather if any thing more severe and Frost sharper with strong Wind, than any Day yet this Winter—bitter, bitter, cold. Very slippery walking this Afternoon especially. It hailed, rained and froze at the same time and the Wind quite high also. The drops of Rain froze on the Windows almost instantaneously. This day is the worst we have had this Winter. Pray God defend all those that are obliged to travel such dreadful severe Weather.

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Jan. 14. . . We had some Wigeon for Dinner to day that Briton bought at Norwich last Saturday, and for which I paid him 1^s/6^d only 1 Couple—but very bad.

Jan. 15. . . Mr. Howlett and Mr. Buck called at my House this morning as they were going about the Parish to make a collection for the Poor this hard Weather. I gave them towards it 2. 2. 0. I gave Briton Leave to go and see his Friends at Reepham and to sleep there this Evening. Was rather indifferent to day, took some Rhubarb going to bed to night, a small dose.

Jan. 19. . . I walked to Church this morning and married Willm. Lane and Charlotte Dunnell by Banns. Recd. for marrying them only (having 2^s/6^d before) 0. 2. 6. Hambleton and Willm. Custance made us a Morning Visit stayed about an hour, eat some sweet Cakes and then went home again as they came, on foot, with Alldis.

Jan. 20, Tuesday. [Note that from this date the Diarist always, or nearly always, inserts the day of the week : hitherto he has been content with the day of the month only.]

I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again.

I could not get to sleep last Night till quite late thinking on such Variety of things and People. Mr. Howlett and Mr. Forster called here this Afternoon as they were going to a Parish Meeting at the Heart to speak to me respecting the Rent due for the Poor Cottage where Dick Buck &c live, which belongs to the Widows Charity—I told them that I expected the Parish would pay the Arrears. Mr. Howlett brought

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with him in a Basket a Couple of Guinea Fowls, a Cock and a Hen, as a present from him and his Wife.

Jan. 21, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Buck, Overseer of the Poor, called on me this morning to inform me that the Parish will pay part of the Rent due for the poor House.

Jan. 24, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning on horseback to Norwich after News &c. returned home by Dinner. Brought a Letter for Nancy from Mr. Walker. An old Man came express from Foulsham with a Letter for Betsy Davy from Mr. Walker in Town. Betsy gave the old Gentleman for coming over with it 1st/6^d. I gave him some Victuals and Drink. The Wind was so high in the Night that I got up about 2 o'clock but did not come below. Went to bed before 5 o'clock.

N.B. Not a Word mentioned to me by either Betsy or Nancy concerning anything in the Letters sent by Walker. Betsy very busy all the Evening writing since she recd. Walkers Letter—but to who not one Word to me. They are both artful.

Jan. 25, Sunday. . . . Nancy and Betsy went to bed exactly at 10 to night.

Jan. 26, Monday. . . . Nancy and Betsy kept in their Room all the whole Morning from breakfast till dinner.

Jan. 27, Tuesday. . . . John Piper of Mattishall, Gardner, and his Man Tom Rudd came early this Morning to prune my Wall Trees &c. they breakfasted, &c. At Mr.Cary's shop for Tobacco $\frac{1}{4}$ Pd. paid o. o. 8. Js. Smith came to the Shop whilst I was there for half a Pound of Butter. I paid for it o. o. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$. Went and saw the poor Girl, Mary Deeker, who keeps her Bed. She was rather better to day.

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Jan. 28, Wednesday. . . . John Piper and his Man breakfasted and dined here, and having pruned all my Trees they went home about 3 o'clock, to Mattishall. I paid John Piper for 2 Days work o. 4. 0. I paid him also for his Man one Day before o. 1. 0. I gave them also besides to spend at the Heart last Night where they slept o. o. 6. brewed a Barrel of small Beer.

Jan. 31, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with my great Cart and in it 10 Coomb 2 Bshls of Barley for Sale, he returned by Dinner, with News &c. He sold the Barley to Mr. Bloome, but no price said. He brought 2 Letters for Betsy Davy 1 from Walker. Mrs. Custance [came] with her Son George and her two Daughters Miss Custance and her Sister Emily, they stayed with us about an Hour. Mrs. Custance looked very poorly, having been very ill lately. They came here this Morning about 12. and stayed till 1.

Feb. 1, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church by himself. Mrs. Custance very ill at home, very sorry to hear it. Thomas Carr dined with our Folks in Kitchen. Gave him a tolerable good Wigg.¹ Lady Bacon came to Weston House to day recd. from her a Note from Mr. Taswell now at Raveningham with S^r Edmd. Bacon informing me that he would dine with us Tuesday next and bring his Night Cap with him. Betsy Davy had a Letter Yesterday from her Mother

¹ A real wig, or a good scolding. The *N.E.D.* suggests the origin of this use of the word as the act of scolding by a 'bigwig', but more probably, it seems to me, the origin was physical action : in other words one seized one's adversary's wig as a vulnerable point. Clarendon in his *Continuation* (vol. iii, p. 719, ed. 1761) describes two noble Lords as going for one another's wigs in Parliament in the 1660's.

that she would be here on Thursday next. Mr. Custance told me this Morning that Mrs. Custance being so ill, begged that we would excuse their dining with us on Wednesday next, as promised.

Feb. 2, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again.

Breeze with Master Custance and Brother George, with Master Bacon called here this Morning just after breakfast, and were monstrous eager to go a coursing with my Dogs. I went out with them, but Master Bacon and Master Custance were soon tired. Master George Custance did not complain at all. They got home to Weston House soon after 1 o'clock.

To Ben this Evening for things pd. . o. 9. 10

To Betty Ditto for ditto pd. . o. o. 5

We could not get sight of a Hare all the time.

Feb. 3, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Taswell of Aylesham came here about 3 o'clock this Aft. in a Tim Wiskey alias Cart and he dined, supped and slept here. A Servant on horseback also with him. Mr. Taswell slept in the Garrett over me. It was 12. before I got to bed to night, Mrs. Surdall a crazy woman here this morning.

Feb. 5, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.

Betsy Davy breakfasted and spent the Morn' with us. About 12 o'clock Mrs. Davy came to my House in a Norwich Post-Chaise, stayed about 2 Hours, eat some cold rost Beef, and then she with her Daughter sat of in the same Chaise for their home at Foulsham.

Feb. 6, Friday. . . . Mr. Symonds of Reepham, Watchmaker, came to my House about Noon, and he dined with our Folks in Kitchen. He cleaned my large

Clock. I paid him a Bill for cleaning my Clocks and Watch from the Year 1780 1. 3. 6. Cleaning my Clock this Day included in the same.

Feb. 9, Monday. . . . Master Custance by himself on foot made us a morning Visit, but did not stay long. I went part of the way back with him. He goes to School to Morrow by himself, his Brother Georges feet being not quite well yet from Chilblains. . . .

Feb. 10, Tuesday. . . . Very busy all the Morn' in trimming up my Firs. We were very lucky in having so fine a day for drying our Linnen—everything soon dry.

Feb. 11, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Jeanes made us a morning Visit, talked a good deal about Ralph Dorville Woodforde, Nancys Brother, on his writing good many things in the Salisbury Magazine, very strange Stuff. Sent Ben very early this Morning to Norwich with my Cart and in it 10 Coomb 2 Bushells of Wheat to Mr. Bloomes and he returned with half a Chaldron Coal from Mr. Bloomes by dinner Time—I am to have for my Wheat £1. 5^s. 0^d per Coomb of Mr. Bloom.

Feb. 12, Thursday. . . . Paid James Pegg this Morning a Quarters Land Tax for Rectory and Coll. Land—3. 0. 0. Mrs. Custance with her Brother S^r Thomas Beauchamp, with Miss Custance, Emily, Master George and Master William made us a Morning Visit stayed about half an Hour. Mrs. Custance wished us to dine with them to day but we could not, as it was inconvenient.

Feb. 14, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton this Morning to Norwich after News on horseback, he returned by Dinner Time. Nancy sent a Letter to her Brother William. This being Valentines Day, I had a great Many Children at my House this Morning to each of whom I gave 1^d in all 0. 4. 10. Nancy had a Letter

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from Betsy Davy by Briton she also sent me a Print of the Vicar and Moses.

Feb. 16, Monday. . . . Busy most part of the Morning in bottling of 2 four Gallon Casks of Gin—39 Bottles.

Feb. 18, Wednesday. . . . Master George Custance with his Brother Willm. made us a Morning Visit—stayed about $\frac{1}{2}$ Hour. I took the height of each of them, George was four foot 6 Inches. Willm. four foot 1 Inch.

Feb. 20, Friday. . . . At 12 o'clock I walked to Church and buried Eliz. Lawrence who died in the Hospital at Norwich and was brought to Weston in a Hearse from Norwich. She was 30 Years old. She was Chamber Maid at Weston House and being ill, and her Case being supposed to be a Hospital one, Mr. Custance sent her thither where she did not remain more than 10 days, before she died. Her chief Complaint was in her Throat, and not one of the Doctors there could find out her real disorder to do her good. She was well respected at Weston House and by everyone else that knew her. Edmund, Servant to Mrs. Custance had a particular regard for her. Most of the Servants from Weston House attended. After I had interred her, I took a Walk to Weston House and stayed an Hour with Mrs. Custance and her Children. Mr. Custance gone from home with S^r John Woodhouse¹ on Election Matters it is supposed. He went from home Yesterday Morning early with S^r John Woodhouse and Mr. Buxton, who slept the preceding Night at Weston H.

Feb. 21, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with my great Cart and in it 12 Coomb of Barley which he sold to Mr. Bloombe, supposed at

¹ See foot-note, p. 125, vol. ii.

$10^s/0^d$ as the last. Ben returned home about 4 o'clock with $\frac{1}{2}$ Chldn Coal. Mr. Custance made us a long morning Visit, stayed near an hour and half and very entertaining.

Feb. 23, Monday. . . . The Wind from W.S.W. very high this Afternoon and Evening till near 10 at Night. At times it was violent and shook the House, but thank God no harm done by it—hope others escape as well.

Feb. 24, Tuesday. . . . Some small damage done to the thatch of my Barn last night by the Wind, but very little. Some small Breaches at the South End of the Thatch. Brewed a Barrell of small Beer to day. Mr. Custance sent us a small bunch of Asparagus. It was a fine fore noon but a wet Afternoon.

Feb. 27, Friday. . . . To 7 yards of purple and White Cotton for a Morn' Gown for me of Bagshaw at $1^s/11^d$ pd. o. 13. 5. To 1 yard of black and White Nims for Waist. o. 4. 6. Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy both on horseback called here this Morning and stayed till near dinner time—eat some Cold Meat &c. and then went of for Foulsham to Mrs. Davys. Whilst they were here Mr. Jeanes called and stayed about half an hour with us. To Mr. Gould, Farrier, for curing my Colt, &c. paid him this Afternoon a Bill of 2. 2. 0. To my Servant Man Ben, this Evening, pd. o. 13. 3. To my Maid, Betty, this Evening pd. o. 8. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Feb. 28, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early to Norwich this morning after News &c. He went on horseback, returned by Dinner. My Cow Polly had a Cow Calf this Morn'.

March 2, Monday. . . . Whilst we were dressing to take a ride to Mr. Du Quesnes Mrs. Bodham sent a long Letter to Nancy this Morn' between 11 and 12 o'clock to desire our Company this week at Mattishall, Nancy

soon answered it, but before the Servant was gone out of the House. Mrs. Collyer with Mrs. Custance called on us but did not stay long as we were going out. Between 12 and 1 we took a ride to Mr. Du Quesnes Nancy in her little Cart with Briton, and I on my old Mare. When we came there Mr. Du Quesne was rode out, supposed to Mr. Jeanes's, so that we saw nothing of him, but heard that he was well. We did not dismount at Mr. Du Quesnes, but returned home almost immediately.

March 3, Tuesday. . . . Recd. of Mr. Cary for 2 Pints of Butter o. 1. 5. Paid to ditto for half Pd. of Tobacco and one pennyworth of Scotch Snuff—by Betty o. 1. 5. Recd. a Note this Evening from Mr. Du Quesne, that he would dine with us to Morrow, if Weather good. Busy this Morning in bottling of some Coniac Brandy and some Hollands Gin—Moonshine.

March 4, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Aft. with us. He was not in good Spirits, owing to disagreeable things happening in his Family with regard to Servants, his Man Servant James Atterton having been too familiar with his two young Servant Maids, Lizzy Greaves, an old Servant Maid of Mine about 23 Years of Age, and another Girl by name Mary, both of which are with Child by James. The former Maid Lizzy, was married Yesterday to James, and the other discovered her Situation only last Night. James also had kept Company with Lizzy's Sister, Sukey, now Servant at Weston House for the last four Years. James never appeared to have been such a sly Fellow as he has proved to be, but much the contrary. We had for Dinner to day a boiled Chicken and a piece of bacon, some rost Beef and Tarts. Mr. Du Quesne left us before Tea.

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March 5, Thursday. . . Recd. of my Butcher for 17 Pd of Tallow o. 4. 3. Gave his Boy for bringing it o. o. 3. About 11 this Morning I mounted my old Mare and went to Norwich, and Ben with me—got there by one, and there I dined, supped and slept there. After Ben had baited himself and Horses I sent him back to Weston with my Mare. I dined at Mr. Priests with him, his Wife, and a Mrs. Fayerman late Miss Thomas of Dereham. We had for dinner some Mutton Stakes, and a Turkey rosted, no Garden Stuff of any kind. I supped and slept at the King's Head. Paid the following Bills this Day at Norwich.

To Mrs. Brewster	.	.	.	.	5.	2.	0
To Mr. Buckle	.	.	.	.	1.	3.	0
To Mr. Forster for College Land				.	16.	0.	0
To Mr. Baker for a Magazine &c.				.	0.	1.	5
To Mr. Francis	.	.	.	.	3.	2.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
To Mr. Horth	.	.	.	.	5.	8.	6
To Mr. Manning	.	.	.	.	1.	6.	0
To Mr. Priest	.	.	.	.	15.	7.	6
To Mr. Scott	.	.	.	.	0.	5.	11
To Messieurs Royal and Kent				.	9.	0.	6
To $\frac{1}{2}$ p ^d of Pigg-tail Tobacco				.	0.	1.	6
To Watson at the Post-Office, Xmas Gift				o.	2.	6	
Paid at the Stamp Office for Births, Marriages, &c.							
o. 6. 3. From Oct. 2—1787—to the 1st Jan ^{ry} 1789.							
Recd. for my trouble out of it o. o. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.							

March 6, Friday. I breakfasted at the Kings Head on Coffee. My Servant Man, Briton, came to Norwich this Morning by 10 o'clock according to Order. To Frank—Barber at the Kings Head o. 1. 6. Paid the following Bills also this Morn' at Norwich.

To Mr. Bloome	14.	5.	6
To Mr. Smith	7.	2.	6

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To Mrs. Garland	3.	7.	0
To Mrs. Studwell	0.	6.	11
To Mr. Rump	0.	6.	5½
Recd. of Mr. Bloome for Wheat &c. .	23.	4.	3
At Frears and Cairns for 4 Bottle Stands o.	7.	0	o
To 1 Dozen of double Gilt Counters of their Majesties going to Worcester last Year pd.	0.	2.	6
To 3 very fine Whiting to carry home .	0.	2.	0
Paid and gave at the Kings Head about	0.	17.	0
Chaise to Weston included also.			

Called on Mrs. Micklethwaite this Morning in St. Stephens, found her at home and very well. She paid me also for 2 years Tithe during her stay at Hungate Lodge 2. 8. o. Her little Boys looked hearty and well. Who should come to the Kings Head about Noon when I was settling Accounts with Mr. Bloome in the Bar-Room, but Mrs. Davy, Miss Davy, and Mr. Walker in a Post Chaise—I went immediately and spoke to them as they came out of the Chaise. I let them have the little dining Room which I had. Soon after they came I went to Mr. Priest's and bespoke 2 Dozen of his old Mountain Wine and 4 Gallons of his best Rum which he warranted Good. At half past 1 o'clock I got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and returned home to Weston, and got thither (thank God) safe and tolerably well by about half past 3 o'clock—Turnpike o. o. 6. The Driver baited himself and Horses at my House about an Hour and then returned to Norwich. To the Driver by name Frank, gave o. 1. 6. Thank God found my Niece well, and all things also. Having recd. a Letter at Mrs. Brewsters for Mrs. Collyer Senr. who is at Weston House—I sent it to her immediately as I returned from Norwich.

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I dined, supped and slept again at home. Gave Nancy half a Dozen of the Worcester Counters. Mrs. Davy Betsy and Mr. Walker dine and sleep at the Kings Head.

March 7, Saturday. . . . I did not send to Norwich to day as Billy Bidewell offered to bring the News-Papers &c for me from thence. His Majesty (thank God) is perfectly recov[er]ed.

March 8, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church—Also read with the greatest Pleasure a Prayer composed on the Occasion on the restoration of his Majesty's Health, which I received this Morning. I return also to thee O Lord my private but most unfeigned Prayer of Thanksgiving for the same, And may so good a King long live to reign over us—and pray God that his amiable and beloved Queen Charlotte may now enjoy again every happiness this World can afford, with so good a Man, and may it long, very long continue with them both here and eternal happiness hereafter. This is the ardent and most fervent Prayer of one of their most sincere subjects for the best of Kings and Queens.^r Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church. The Weather, I suppose, being so very Cloudy with Snow. Nancys Birth Day to day she is now entered into her 32. Year.

March 9, Monday. . . . Mr. Walker with Mary Anne Thorne called here this Morning, and stayed about an Hour.

March 11, Wednesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mrs. Collyer Sen^r and Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner a boiled Pike and Oyster Sauce, a boiled Chicken and a Tongue,

^r See foot-note, p. 64, preceding.

a leg of Mutton boiled and Caper Sauce, a Damson Pudding, a Turkey rosted and some Tartlets. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, to limited Loo, at which I lost about 0. 9. 0. Our Company left us about half past 8 o'clock. Nancy won at Cards this Evening 0. 5. 6. I had a bad Cold, but however spent the Day as agreeably as I could wish—All my Company well pleased and everything conducted to my entire Satisfaction. Mr. Du Quesne gave each of my Maids a Muslin Apron.

March 12, Thursday. . . . My Cold (thank God) is much better to day. Bitter cold Day, smart Frost, Snow and Wind. It froze very sharp within Doors last Night and to day Very severe Weather for this time of the Year. Turnips now very dear, 5 and 6 Guineas an Acre.

March 14, Saturday. . . . Ben bruised and otherwise greatly hurt his right Leg this morning by the Limb of a Tree. It also grated the Leg a good deal and made it swell much. I immediately ordered a large piece of the Family Plaister to be applied to his Leg, which very soon abated the Swelling and made his Leg easier and better. Nancy wants a Arquebusade¹ to be applied to his Leg and abused the Family Plaister and said it was very improper. Nancy recd. a Letter from her Brother Sam² at Rome this Evening brought by a Servant of Mr. Custances. He was very well and is to stay in Italy another Year, and then return to England, by way of Holland and thence to Weston Parsonage, in his way into the West of England. I received also a Letter this Even' from Mr. Coke of

¹ Arquebusade=Arquebusade-water, a special lotion for wounds. See N.E.D.

² See p. 210, vol. ii.

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Holkham, desiring my Vote and Interest at the next Election for the County of Norfolk.¹

March 17, Tuesday. . . . This morning settled Money Matters with my Niece for the last year—paid her the balance in ready Cash—which was 4. 4. 0. The whole that I had paid for her and gave her the last Year—amounted to 31. 2. 9. Brewed some strong Beer to day. Nancy very discontented of late, and runs out against living in such a dull Place.

March 18, Wednesday. . . . Brewed some more strong Beer to day. It always takes us 2 Days to brew a Barrell of strong Beer. Great Rejoicings at Norwich this Evening on the happy restoration of his Majesty's Health. I gave to our People in the Kitchen on the Occasion a Bottle of Gin to drink the King's Health, this Evening after Supper, and the Queens to Morrow.

March 19, Thursday. . . . Most part of the Day fine but Air very cold. I took a little Rharbarb this Evening going to bed being rather dull and melancholy.

March 24, Tuesday. . . . Nancy rec^d a very disagreeable Letter from her Brother William this Evening by Mr. Custances Servant, respecting the dangerous State of my Brother Heighes's Health, his case is a violent Strangury² and if some remedy or other does not soon, very soon do good, it will terminate fatally to him. Pray God! grant a Blessing to those made use of for his Recovery and that we might have better News in our next Letter from the West. Nancy as well as myself very uneasy on the above melancholy Account. I hope he is not so bad as said.

March 25, Wednesday. . . . We were both very dull all

¹ See foot-note, p. 60, preceding.

² A disease of the urinary organs resulting in painful emission of urine.

See N.E.D.

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the Morning and all the Day long. Nancy better than she would have been perhaps on taking some Rhubarb last Night. Edmund Blake lately turned away from being a Servant at Weston House called here this Aft. to bid our Servants good bye.

March 26, Thursday. . . . Very sharp Frosts of Nights still prevail and very cold Weather, no appearance of Spring yet to signify. The Wall fruit Trees seem to promise very well, the Apricots as full in Blossom as can be, but they are not full out, otherwise the Frost would cut them.

March 28, Saturday. . . . I took a Walk to Weston House this Morning to see Mr. Custance who is ill in a swelled Face. I stayed with him an hour and half and returned home to dinner. Mr. Custance pressed me much to dine with him as he was alone, and Mrs. Custance at Raveningham, at S^r Edmund Bacons, but I could not as I expected a Letter from the West by my Servant, Briton, who went to Norwich this morning after News &c. and which in all probability would be most unwelcome to me and likewise to my poor Niece—accordingly when I returned which was about 3 o'clock to my House, Briton was returned, and with him brought a Letter sealed with black Wax to me, which on opening I found to be from my Brother John, informing us, that my dear Brother Heighes died on Sunday last the 22 Instant about 11 o'clock in the Morning from a violent inflammation in the urinary passage which finally terminated in a Mortification in a very short time, pray Almighty God that he might be more happy in a future State than he has experienced in this, and all his frailties in this Life forgiven. We heard nothing of his being ill till Tuesday night last, and now gone, O Lord make us wise to think on

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futurity. We were both most unhappy, on hearing the fatal News, my Brothers Letter was dated on the 22 Instant the Day my poor Brother died. My Brother John rather bad in a cold but all our remaining Friends well. Pray God comfort my Nephew Will^m in his great distress. My Brother mentions that he believes that my late Brother Heighes had left his Sons Willm. and Samuel executors, and that they are to pay Nancy a share of his Estate in Sussex in money.

March 29, Sunday. . . . We both got up very uneasy this Morning having had but indifferent sleep, on the late bad News. I read Prayers and Preached however this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance not at Church. I churched Mrs. Forster this Morn' recd. o. o. 6. Nancy had a Note this Evening from Mrs. Bodham to desire our Company Wednesday next to spend a few Days with them. As it came by Tooley who goes most Sundays to Mattishall Methodist Meeting we cannot return an Answer till to Morrow. This Evening I thank God we were more composed.

March 30, Monday. . . . As I was sending Briton this morning to Mattishall to Mr. Bodham's his Servant came to us with a Note to press our coming on Wednesday but I sent a Letter to Mr. Bodham to let him know that we could not possibly in our present distress, as we must go as soon as we can to Norwich to get Mourning on the Melancholy Occasion. . . .

March 31, Tuesday. . . . Had rather a restless Night last Night with frightful Dreams. Sent Briton this Morning after breakfast to Norwich to carry a Letter to Mr. Priest and to bespeak a Chaise from the Kings Head to come after us to Morrow Morning to go to Norwich after Mourning. We sent word to Mr. Priest that we would dine with him to Morrow, and to

desire the favour of a bed for my Niece for one night or two. Briton returned abt. 4 o'clock this Afternoon. April 1, Wednesday. . . . We were greatly disappointed in not going to Norwich this morning, having bespoke a Chaise from the Kings Head at Norwich to be at my House this Morn' by 11 o'clock, and likewise we promised to dine with Mr. and Mrs. Priest this Day at 2 o'clock. We were dressed by the appointed Time but no Chaise came till half past 4 o'clock this afternoon. When at last in great haste there came one—and the reason of its being not here before, was, that Raven at the Kings Head to whom I had sent a Note, had entirely forgot it. And if Mr. Priest had not sent once or twice about Dinner time to the Kings Head no Chaise would have come at all. We however got into the Chaise as soon as we could and drove off for Norwich where we arrived within an Hour and half, and drank Tea at Mr. Priests with him and his Wife and Mr. John Priest. Nancy supped and slept at Mr. Priests. I supped and slept at the Kings Head as did my Servant Briton.

April 2, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at the Kings Head. Nancy breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Mr. Priests. After breakfast I walked out in the Town and went into many Shops to bespeak and buy things. At Bacons for a Quire of black edg'd Letter Paper paid at the Shop 0. 1. 0. At another House for the Songs in the Farmer¹ p^d 0. 0. 6. Sent Briton also to Barkers to pay a Bill there for Nancy for 20 Yrds Sup. Bombasine at 3^s/6^d per Yard and 9 yards Sup. Wildbore at 2^s/0^d—4. 8. 0. At 2 o'clock went to Mr. Priests and there dined, and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, their Son

¹ From O'Keefe's comic opera, first published, 1787-8.

John and my Niece. We had for Dinner some Codfish and Shrimp Sauce, a neck of Mutton rosted, and a wild Duck rosted and some black Caps. Before Tea I walked to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital with Mr. Priest who is one of the Visitors for this Week, and we walked over almost the whole Hospital into almost every Ward, and I think I never saw an Hospital kept in a better and more clean, airy manner. All the poor Creatures in it appeared quite cheerful and grateful in their present Complaints. I there saw a Stone that was taken out of a Man by Mr. Donne,¹ and the Man now living, of a most extraordinary Nature, called the Mulberry Stone the Colour and make of the Mulberry, but very large. The poor Man was a long time under the Operation. We returned back to Tea to Mrs. Priest and Nancy. After Tea we got to Quadrille at which won o. o. 9. About 9 I returned to my Inn and there supped and slept. Paid Wilmot, my Hatter, a Bill of 2. 4. 6.

April 3, Friday. I breakfasted at the Kings Head and spent most of Morning at Norwich as did my Niece. And about 1 o'clock we got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and sat of for Weston Parsonage, where I thank God, we arrived safe and well about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 o'clock. The Driver, Willm. eat a bit of cold Meat and was soon of again, I gave him o. 1. 6.

For Fish this Morning at Norwich	pd.	o.	3.	6
For a Wedgewood Tea Pot at Cooks	pd.	o.	4.	0
For a Powder Puff for my Wiggs	pd.	o.	2.	0
For a Basket to carry the Fish &c. home	pd.	o.	o.	6.
For a new Razor warranted good (of one Critchfield in White Lion Lane)	pd.	o.	3.	6.

Sent a Letter this Morning when at Norwich to my Brother John in

¹ See foot-note, p. 234, vol. ii.

Answer to his last melancholy one. At the Kings Head for the Chaises &c. pd. 1. 12. 7. To the Servants at the Kings Head gave o. 4. 6. To Frank, Barber at the Kings Head gave o. 1. 0.

April 5, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Ch. Mr. Custance at Church this Afternoon—Mrs. C. not at home. The poor Girl Mary Deeker died this morning at the Widows Cottage, she has scarce ever been well. It is a happy change for her, I hope to God.

April 7, Tuesday. . . . I buried the poor Girl, Mary Deeker, this Afternoon at Weston aged 30 Years.

April 9, Thursday. . . . After breakfast Nancy took a ride in her little Cart to Mattishall and made a Visit to Mr. and Mrs. Bodham who were very Glad to see her, Miss Johnson there. Nancy returned home to dinner by 3 o'clock. During Nancy's absence Mr. Jeanes called at my House and stayed about an hour with me. Recd. for 1 Pint of Butter of Mr. Cary o. o. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$.

April 11, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton this morning early with my little Cart to Norwich after News &c. &c. He returned abt. 4 o'clock this Afternoon and with him brought me a Letter from my Sister Pounsett, in which she says that our late poor Brother Heighes had made a Will and left his Estate in Sussex equally between his Sons Willm. and Sam^l and their Sister A. M. Woodforde which I think very good and just of him. It is rather apprehended that the Widow will have the Estate during her natural Life. Briton also brought all our Mourning home, viz. a black Coat and Waistcoat for me. A Black Bombasine Gown and Coat for Nancy with long Sleeves, and also a black stuff German Great Coat for her to wear in common. Mr. Du Quesne sent a Servant over to our house about

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2 o'clock with a fine Trout, and that if we were not engaged he would dine with us to day and at 3 he came and dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner the Trout, some minced Veal, and a Neck of Mutton rosted.

April 12, Sunday and Easter-Day. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston Church, being Easter Day. For an Offering at the Altar gave 0. 2. 6. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church this Morn' being both ill at home. quite cold Air today and Frosts every night, tho' cheery by day. To a poor lame Boy of Spraggs' of Attlebridge who was at Weston Church this morning gave 0. 6. My clerk J^s Smith dined with our folks in Kitchen.

April 14, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Jeanes partly promised me Yesterday that he and his Wife would dine with us to-day, but they disappointed us, we had however prepared rather on their Account about our Dinner, as we had some Fish and a fine Piece of Beef rosted.

April 15, Wednesday. . . . Soon after breakfast Nancy took a ride in her little Cart to Mr. Thorne's at Mattishall, from thence to Mr. Du Quesnes and home to dinner. During her being out Mrs. Jeanes called here to take her with her to Weston House, but when she found that Nancy was out, she went up to Mrs. Custances by herself, and after staying there some little time returned back to our House to see if Nancy was returned, but she was not. She then stayed about half an Hour, with me, during which time Mr. Jeanes came, and stayed about half an Hour, I asked them to partake of a Family Dinner, but they would not, as Nancy was not at home I suppose. They left me about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2. Nancy returned very soon after.

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April 16, Thursday. . . I privately baptized a Child of Ham. Smiths this Morning at my house, by name Joseph. About 2 o'clock this Afternoon Mr. Du Quesne called on us to go to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham to dinner. Mr. Du Quesne came on horseback and we went with him, Nancy in her little cart and myself on horseback to Mr. Jeanes's and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, Mr. Du Quesne, and Mr. Priest of Reepham. We had for Dinner some salt fish and egg Sauce, a Couple of Fowls boiled and a chine of pork, a fore-Quarter of Lamb and a batter-Pudding. We returned home by 8 o'clock this Evening. We had some very good Cyder at Mr. Jeanes's of his own making the last year. Thank God we got home safe and well this Evening.

April 17, Friday. . . To Neighbour Gooch for a Leg of Veal at $3\frac{1}{2}$ p^d o. 3. o. Mr. and Mrs. Custance drank Tea with us this Aft. in a friendly way, stayed till near 8 o'clock. Mr. Custance very kindly brought us a bunch of Radishes which was a very great rarity as the Weather has been of late uncommonly severe for the Season. To a Calfs Head of Nann Gooch paid o. 1. o.

April 18, Saturday. . . Mr. Shute of Brancaster break-fasted with us this Morning, came before we were got down Stairs. He came from Norwich this morning, could not prevail on him to dine with us. He sat of for his own home at Brancaster soon after breakfast. He was married about last July to a Staffordshire Lady. Sent Ben very early to Norwich with 10 Coomb and 2 Bshls. of Barley to Mr. Bloome, he returned ab^t 4 o'clock this Afternoon and brought back half a Chldrn. of Coal from Mr. Bloomes. Mr. Bloome gave 10/6 per Coomb for the Barley, rec^d by Ben 5. 5. o for the ten Coomb and two Bushls.

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April 19, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and publickly christened a Child this Afternoon at Weston Church. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church this Afternoon. There was a very full Congregation at Church this Aft. Read a Royal Proclamation for a general thanksgiving day to be observed on Thursday next upon the late great and wonderful recovery of our most gracious and truly beloved Sovereign King George the third. If he had not recovered God only knows, what troubles England might have been involved in just at this time.¹ Thanks be to God! Between 7 and 8 this Evening Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy came to my House they were on horseback. They stayed and drank Tea and at 8. sat of for Foulsham, as I was determined not to offer them beds. They came from Lynn this morning, in Post Chaises from Lynn to Dereham, and afterwards on horseback.

April 20, Monday. . . . Soon after breakfast Mrs. Davy of Foulsham with a Servant Boy with her on single Horses came to our House and she stayed and dined and spent the Afternoon with us, but went away before Tea back to Foulsham. We had for dinner a Fillet of Veal roasted and a nice boiled Ham, Tartletts &c. Mrs. Davy was not well pleased with me nor I with her. She is without exception the most bold Woman I know.

April 22, Wednesday. . . . Very busy in sowing Barley are People now employed—it promises to be a very fine Barley Sill.²

April 23, Thursday. . . . This being a Day of public thanksgiving to Almighty God for his late great mercies to our good and gracious King George the third, in

¹ See foot-note, p. 64, preceding.

² i.e. Barley harvest, just as Haysel is dialect for hay harvest. I am not clear as to the origin of sel or sill.

restoring him to Health after so dangerous an illness, I walked to Church at 11 o'clock and there read Prayers proper for the Occasion with the other morning Prayers, a good many People at Church but neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance or any of the family. Mr. Custance went for London yesterday I heard. He is to stay a Week in Town it is reported. Mr. Custance being one of the Gentlemen of the privy Chamber to his Majesty,¹ I apprehend is the Occasion of his going, as this Day the King goes publickly to St. Pauls to return thanks, both Houses of Parliament attend him etc. It is to be a grand Procession thither. It is to be a great day of rejoicing every where almost. We heard firing of Guns from many Quarters ab^t Noon. There was nothing at all done at Weston in that way.

April 25, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Bodham sent my niece a Letter this morning to desire our Company next Week at Mattishall which we sent word that we would wait on them. To Neighbour Richmond for four Goslings six weeks old, at 15^d apiece, paid her o. 5. o. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with my old Cow, Polly, and her Calf with her, to sell for me on the Hill, but he returned with them both about 5 o'clock this evening, having very little or nothing bid for them.

April 27, Monday. . . . My Study smoaked amazingly this morning was obliged to have a fire in the Parlour, and to let the other be taken away. It always did smoke and am afraid ever will when the Wind is W.S.W. Mrs. Custance with her three children, William, Fanny and Emily, drank Tea with us this Afternoon and stayed with us till between 7 and 8 this Evening. Mr. Custance not returned home as yet.

April 28, Tuesday. . . . About 12. Nancy went in her

¹ See vol. i, p. 227.

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little Cart and Briton with her to Mr. Bodham's at Mattishall where she is to spend a few days with Mrs. Bodham. Briton returned home by dinner time. Mrs. Custance sent me a nice Cucumber this Evening which I intend to carry with me to Mattishall tomorrow, where I intend to spend a day or two with Mr. and Mrs. Bodham by appointment.

April 29, Wednesday. I breakfasted, and spent most of the Morn' at home. About 1 o'clock took a ride to Mattishall and Briton with me to Mr. Bodham's, got there about 2 where I dined, supped and slept. Only Mr. and Mrs. Bodham and my Niece there. Briton slept there. As I was putting on my Boots in the Kitchen this morning to go to Mr. Bodhams, Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy called at the Kitchen Door on horseback, to whom I went out to speak to with only one boot on. I asked them to unlight and have some refreshment but they neither would. They both looked very cool on me, particularly Betsy Davy who scarce deigned to cast a look on me when I spoke to her, they behaved with great reserve. We had for dinner today at Mr. Bodhams some boiled Beef, a Fillet of Veal roasted and a Tongue, a boiled Pudding and some Tarts. Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt drank Tea and spent part of the Evening with us. At Cards after Tea lost o. 2. 6. We did not get to bed till near 12 o'clock tonight.

April 30, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Mr. Bodhams. As did my Niece. There was company expected at dinner today at Mr. Bodhams, Mr. and Mrs. Shelford etc but none came being ill and engaged. After breakfast Mr. Bodham and self took a Walk to his Brother in laws Mr. Wright who lately bought an estate that was formerly Broadbanks,

we went to see the House and Gardens, the latter pretty enough but the House indifferent, very small Rooms etc. Mr. Wright does not live in it at present but talks soon of doing it. He is at present at Downham. We had some very fine fresh Salmon for Dinner today, with a Breast of Veal rosted, and a Couple of Ducklings, with a Pudding and Tarts. Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. and Mrs. Howman were invited to dine with us today but could not come. After Tea we got to Cards again, lost o. 2. 0.

May 1st Friday. I breakfasted and spent part of the Morning at Mr. Bodhams with him, his Wife and my Niece. Soon after 11 o'clock this Morning I took my leave of Mr. and Mrs. Bodham, mounted my Mare and sat of for Weston. In my way home called at Mr. Du Quesnes but he was not at home but at Norwich. He however left word at his house that he intended dining with me today at Weston Parsonage. Coming away from Mr. Bodhams this morning gave the House-keeper Mrs. Johnson o. 2. 6. To 2 servant Men by name Will^m and Edm^d o. 2. 0. I left Nancy at Mr. Bodhams to spend a day or so more there. I got home about 1 o'clock, safe and well thank God. Briton with my Horses at Mr. Bodhams all the time. Mr. Du Quesne came to my House in his own Carriage about half past 3 o'clock. He brought some Smelts with him from Norwich which we had as part of our Dinner. I had besides a Calf's Head boiled and Bacon, a Leg of Mutton rosted and some Rasberry Puffs and black Currant Tartletts. Mr. Du Quesne dined, smoaked a Pipe, drank a dish of Tea with me and went for home ab^t 7 o'clock. . . .

May 3, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached and christned a Child by name Joseph this afternoon at

Weston Church. None from Weston House to day at Church. Mr. Custance not returned home as yet. Rec'd a letter this Evening from my Niece at Mattishall to let me know that she goes to Morrow to Mr. Thorne's to spend a few days with Mrs. Thorne &c. Betsy Davy and Mr. Walker are I believe there. I was very much displeased at it and shall send for her home to Morrow early. I am almost continually vexed and tormented by her connection with the Davy's &c. They have almost alienated my regard for my Niece.

May 4, Monday. . . . I got up at 6 o'clock this morning and sent of Briton after Nancy as soon as I could. . . . Nancy returned with Briton which was very good of her about 2 o'clock and she dined and slept at home.

May 6, Wednesday. . . . Nancy went to Mattishall to Mr. Thorne's this Morn' about 7 o'clock before breakfast, in her little Cart, where she is to spend the Day and night—Briton went with her—She was not pleased with Briton. We got up soon after 6 o'clock this Morning. Briton returned about 11 o'clock this Morning. About Noon Mrs. Custance sent a Servant to my House to desire us to dine with her and Lady Bacon &c. I sent word back that Nancy was gone to Mattishall but that I would dine with her. Mr. Custance not returned yet. Between 2 and 3 o'clock I took a Walk to Weston House and there dined and spent the afternoon with Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon, Mr. Taswell of Aylesham and his Nephew. Mr. Taswell and Nephew returned home after Tea. I returned home by 8 o'clock this evening.

May 8, Friday. . . . After breakfast about half past 8 o'clock I mounted my old Mare and went to Foulsham, about 9 Miles from my House, to the Sign of the Ship, kept by one Blanchflower, very civil People, and there

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I dined with our Arch-Deacon Mr. Younge and other Brethren. At 11 o'clock we walked to Church, where we heard Prayers read by Mr. Athill and a Sermon preached by Mr. Wilson for the Rev^d Mr. Harding of Ling. The Company at Dinner were the following Clergy. The Arch-Deacon Mr. Younge, Mr. Astley, Mr. Athill, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Jeanes, Mr. Priest, Mr. Whitmell, Mr. Carr, Mr. Addison, Mr. Taswell, Mr. Ivory, Mr. Norris, Mr. Brown, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Bulwer, Mr. Bryant Jun^r and myself. Mr. Baker the Official with two of Mr. Morphews Clerks and Mr. Quarles of Foulsham also dined with us, and a very excellent dinner we had a whole Cod-Fish and Cockle Sauce, boiled breast of Veal and Oyster Sauce, hashed Calfs Head, Ham, boiled and rost Beef, a Leg of Mutton boiled. Pies and Puddings &c. Quarter of Lamb rosted. We dined about 2 o'clock and broke up before 5. We each paid for ordinary and extraordinary 3. 0. Rec^d of my Church-Warden Howlett my Fee 0. 2. 6. Rec^d of Mr. Carr what I paid for him at the last Generals at Foulsham 0. 1. 0. Mr. Jeanes, myself and Taswell called on Mrs. Davy and Daughter before Dinner. The latter looked very poorly indeed as did also Mr. Walker. I returned home with Mr. Jeanes at Witchingham and there drank Tea at 6 o'clock with Mr. Jeanes. Mrs. Jeanes was at home but had just drank Tea. I got home to my own House by 8 o'clock this Even' and I thank God safe and well after spending an agreeable Day at one place and another. There were a great many dressy Ladies at Church to day at Foulsham, and some very handsome.

May 9, Saturday. . . . Mr. Cary brought my Newspapers today. No Letters. Mr. Custance returned home from London this Evening. I sent to Weston House

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this Evening to enquire. I read the Letter which Nancy rec'd from her Brother William last Wednesday and which she gave me. I think William talks at present in too high Strains rather disrespectful both of the Living and the dead. No Compliments from either him or his Wife to us. A very long Letter but full of egotisms. He also desires his Sister to write to her B[rother]. Sam on the disagreeable News of his Fathers Death &c.

May 11, Monday. . . . We had Maccarel to day for Dinner being the first we have seen any where this Season, 5^d apiece, but the Spring is so very backward that there are no green-gooseberries to eat with them nor will there be any for some time. To Cantrells Son Rich^d for bringing me 4 Dozen of London Porter, one Bottle broke in Carriage, gave 0. 6.

May 12, Tuesday. . . . Busy this morning in writing a Letter to my Sister Pounsett as was Nancy in writing one to her Brother at Rome, to inform him of the death of his poor Father, which his Brother Will^m ought to have done long before.

May 13, Wednesday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart after Fish etc. having company to Morrow. Sent by him my Letter to my Sister Pounsett. Nancy also sent by him her Letter to her Brother Samuel. He returned about 4 o'clock with a very small piece of fresh Salmon, so small that I cannot pretend to have it for Dinner to Morrow for so large a Company. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Lady Bacon drank Tea with us this Afternoon and stayed till after 8 o'clock. They sent us word of their coming this morning. I did not go to bed till 12 o'clock as a Tempest arose about 11 o'clock, but thank God it did not last long nor did any damage.

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May 14, Thursday. . . . Paid James Pegg a Q^{rs} Land Tax and half a Years other Taxes, paid him in the whole £8. 1. 0. Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham with their Daughter Rebeccah and their Son Robert, and Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes promised me that they would meet the above Company this Day at my house and at dinner. They were to go out for a few Days the beginning of this week to Swaffham and Saham etc. but Mr. Jeanes promised me that they would dine here this day—We put off Dinner till near 4 o'clock before we sat down. They neither came or sent any message the whole day. They had also ordered their Man James to meet them at my House by dinner time—Accordingly the man came and dined and stayed till near 8 o'clock in the Evening waiting here for his Master—I hope no bad Accident has happened to them. We had for Dinner some boiled Tench, Eels fryed &c all which Mrs. Custance sent us last Night after their return home which was very, very kind indeed of them. We had also for Dinner a boiled Knuckle of Veal and Piggs Face, a Fore-Quarter of Lamb rosted, and a Plumb Pudding; four nice spring Chicken rosted and Asparagus, green Apricot Tarts and Custards; Colliflower, Brocoli, Spinage, Cucumbers and a large Bowl of Sallading. The Company left us a little before 8 o'clock.

May 15, Friday. . . . A most gracious and heavenly Rain this Morning about 8 o'clock. Blessed be God for the same. We had some fresh Salmon to day for Dinner with shrimp Sauce and we eat very hearty of it indeed. It was pretty good but nothing like so fresh as we have it in the West of England, as it came from London.

May 18, Monday. . . . The Widows Cottages begun re-

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pairing by my Order—Two Masons and 2 Carpenters at Work all day there. I was with them twice this Day. Mr. Jeanes made us a morning visit. Killed a small fat Pigg, weight 6 St and $\frac{1}{2}$.

May 19, Tuesday. . . To one Allcock of East-Tuddenham but belongs to this Parish, having very lately lost a good Mare in foaling gave him o. 5. 0. To my Servant Man Ben for things paid o. 17. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. To my Servant Man, Briton, for d° paid o. 13. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. To Tobacco and Snuff at Mr. Carys paid o. 1. 0. Two Masons and 2 Carpenters again at Work the whole day at the Widows Cottages.

May 20, Wednesday. . . Mr. Walker with Betsy Davy behind him, called here about 2 o'clock and after staying with us about half an Hour Mr. Walker mounted his horse and went of for Foulsham leaving Betsy Davy behind to spend the Day and the Night with us, and she therefore dined, supped and slept here. She looks very poorly and is very bad again in her old Complaint the palpitation of the heart and Cramp in her head. Too much raking about has been I think the cause of her being so ill again, much beyond her Strength.

May 21, Thursday. . . Betsy Davy breakfasted, dined, and spent part of the Afternoon with us. About Noon Mr. Walker came here and he dined and spent part of the Afternoon with us till 4 o'clock, and then Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy behind him went of for Foulsham. We had for Dinner some Skaite, and a nice Neck of Pork rosted and Apple Sauce, and Tarts and Tartlets. My Maid Nanny Kaye lost her poor old Father this week and is to be buried to Morrow, therefore she desires to go to the Funeral to Morrow at Foulsham. And as it is supposed that she and her Sisters must be at the expense of burying their Father,

I gave her towards defraying the same the sum of
1. 1. 0 with leave to go to Foulsham to Morrow. . . .

May 22, Friday. . . . Nanny got up early and walked for
Foulsham to attend the Funeral of her poor Father
this day. I gave her leave to stay till to Morrow.¹

May 27, Wednesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes, and Mr.
Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us,
and stayed till 8 o'clock. After Coffee and Tea we got
to Whist won 0. 2. 0. We had for Dinner 3 nice spring
Chicken boiled and a Tongue, a Knuckle of Veal, a
fine Piece of rost Beef and a plumb Pudding. A green
Goose rosted and Asparagus and green Apricot Tarts.
Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes sent us a verbal Message on Sun-
day last that they would dine with us this day.

May 28, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at
home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home.
I had a very odd Dream last Night, I dreamt that I
should die the Friday before the fifth of Nov^{br} next;
not my Will o Lord but thine be done, if it be thy
good pleasure thus to fulfil the same. And may thou
O Good God forgive me all my Sins.²

May 30, Saturday. . . . To Ned Howes's Wife for a
Shoulder and Neck of Veal, very white and good, at
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ ^d per Pd paid 0. 3. 9. To ditto for a Calfs Pluck,
very nice, paid 0. 1. 6. Mr. Priest of Reepham on his
return home from Mr. Du Quesne's on foot, called on
us this morning between 11 and 12 and spent half an
Hour with us, eat a small Cake and drank some Gin
and Water. Sent Briton early this morning to Nor-
wich in my little Cart, after News etc. He returned

¹ Foulsham was nine or ten miles from Weston, so Nanny's walk was long as well as sad.

² In the margin, or rather on the blotting-paper which separates each page of the manuscript volume, opposite to this date is drawn a neat hand pointing ominously to this entry.

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home before 3 o'clock and brought me a Letter from my Sister Pounsett who informs me that my Brother John is better, and that we are expected in Somersett very soon.

June 1st Monday. . . . To a decayed old Schoolmaster gave o. i. o. . . .

June 2, Tuesday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Jeanes's, with him, Mrs. Jeanes, Miss Lloyd and Miss Kitty Lloyd, and a Captain Bullock a good kind of man. Nancy went in her little Cart and was caught in the Rain a little before she got to Mr. Jeanes's. I went on my old Mare, called at Weston House as I went and spent an Hour with Mrs. Custance, during which time it rained and sometimes very hard Rain indeed. However I afterwards got to Mr. Jeanes with little or no Rain. Afternoon Coffee and Tea we got to Loo, neither won or lost. We played at 6^d per Doz. and limited it to 1^s/0^d the Loo. We did not get home till after 9 o'clock this Evening.

June 3, Wednesday. . . . Soon after 8 this morning I got into my little Cart and Briton, with me, and away I drove off for Norwich and got thither in about 2 Hours. I got out just as we got to the Gates and walked into the City, leaving the Care of the Cart to Briton. I chiefly went to Norwich to Day to get Fish for Company to Morrow at Weston Parsonage, and to bespeak Places in the Expedition Coach for London on Tuesday Evening next, for myself, Nancy, and our Servant Man Briton. Whilst at Norwich I called at Buckles and he being a Trustee for settling Mr. Frosts Accounts, he having lately failed by paying more attention to his Bottle than business that of Master Builder. I paid Buckle for him 1. 2. 0 which was a Bill for Deals last Year had of him. To Allum, Sadler, also he being

in the same Predicament paid him a small Bill of o. 5. 6. To half a Dozen Maccarel pd o. 1. 6. To half a Dozen sweet Oranges pd o. 1. 0. To a new Rasor of Critchfield warranted good and grinding another Rasor and setting another pd o. 3. 9. To a Glass of Rum and Water &c at Norwich pd o. 0. 4. To 4 small Crabbs pd o. 0. 6. At half past 1 o'clock we sat of from Norwich for Weston and got home safe and well thank God by half past 3. John Priest of Norwich was married Yesterday Morn' to a Miss Raven of Turnstead, a Farmer's Daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Thorne sent a Note whilst I was from home to day, that they could not dine with us to Morrow, as they could not leave their Daughter Hannah she being much worse in her fits than usual. Mr. Thorne might however come I think.

June 6, Saturday. . . . I got up very indifferent this morning with a sore throat, a great hoarseness, and otherwise much deranged by having little or no sleep the whole of last night. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner a Neck of Mutton rosted, Goose-Giblets, hashed Lamb and Tarts. Thank God, was much better before I went to bed.

June 8, Monday. . . . Mr. Mann called on me this morning for a Certificate out of the Register of Susannah Woods, received of him, for the same, as common o. 1. 0. Mr. Custance called on us this Evening about 6 o'clock and took a genteel Leave of us as we go to Morrow.

June 9, Tuesday. I breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' at home. Nancy breakfasted, and spent part of the Morn' at home. About Noon we went in a Norwich Chaise to Norwich, got there about 2 o'clock and there dined and spent the Afternoon at the Kings

Head and my Servant Briton went with us and my Boy with him to have back his Horse, as Briton goes with us into the West of England and set of to night. Mr. Casters Donne of Brome spent part of the Aft. with us. Paid at the Expedition Office for 2 Inside Places at 24^s/0^d and 1 outside at 14^s/0^d 3. 2. 0. For extraordinary Luggage at 1½^d per P^d o. 12. 0. Paid for chaise &c at the Kings Head ab^t o. 19. 9. At 6 o'clock precisely Nancy and self got into the Expedition Coach for London and Briton on the Outside, and sat of for London where we expect to arrive to Morrow Morn' by 11 o'clock.

June 10, Wednesday. We got to London this Morning by 11 o'clock and I thank God safe and well. A Mrs. Frasier and a Mr. Tanner went with us in the Coach. Mrs. Frasier with her two Daughters who went in the Outside, formerly lived at Reepham and were old acquaintance of Britons, and it being his first Time of going to London, it happened very luckily for him and made it more pleasant. It rained a good deal in the night. Paid and gave on the road in the Night ab^t 7. o. Soon after we got to the Bull in Bishops-gate Street I ordered a coach in which we went with our Luggage to the Angel Inn at the back of St Clements Church in the Strand where we dined, supped and slept. At the Bull for some Negus paid o. 1. o. To the Expedition Coachman gave o. 2. o. To the Guard to the above gave o. 1. o. We parted with our Company at the Bull. For a Hackney Coach to the Angel pd o. 1. 6. Briton was highly pleased with London. To a Pound of Sealing Wax near Temple Bar pd 4. 6. After Dinner walked to the Bell-Savage Inn Ludgate Hill and took 2 inside Places and 1 outside in the Salisbury Coach on Friday Afternoon next at 4 o'clock,

paid for earnest 1. 1. 0. My sore Throat and cold very indifferent to Night which made me rather dull and being tired much also. Nancy bore her Journey remarkably well indeed. We got to bed in tolerable good time as we did not get into a bed the whole of last night.

June 11, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at the Angel at the back of St Clements Church. After breakfast I hired a Hackney Coach and took Nancy with me a shopping. Lent Nancy to buy things this Morn 1. 1. 0. At a Fan shop in Tavistock Street for 2 Fanns 1 for Nancy's Sister in Law and 1 for my Niece Jane Pounsett pd o. 11. 0. Nancy owes me for her Sisters Fan o. 5. 0. For the Hackney this morning pd o. 3. 0. We dined rather late. at 6 o'clock this evening we went in a Hackney Coach to the Theatre in Covent Garden and there saw the Duenna performed, Mrs. Billington the famous singer, sung most delightfully this evening. The Entertainment was the Midnight Hour. The House was much crowded, we sat in the Boxes, Nancy was obliged to sit without a Hat, a Person in the Lobby taking care of it. For our seats in the Boxes I pd. o. 10. 0. To a Woman that took care of the Hat gave o. 1. 0. For a Coach to Covent Garden Theatre pd. o. 1. 6. For ditto from thence gave o. 2. 0. We went there and back very well indeed. Nancy was well pleased in going thither. Briton also went into the 2 Shilling Gallery. To 3 Caricature Prints pd o. 3. 0. We called this morning at Mr. Thos Donnes in Foster Lane, Cheapside, to see Mrs. Field late Miss Betsy Donne¹ but she was not to be seen or any of the Family belonging to her.

¹ 'A fine showy girl . . . Miss Donne is a most agreeable young Lady, full of vivacity, very pretty with an excellent voice. . . . I was very flat and

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June 12, Friday. We breakfasted, dined and spent part of the Afternoon at the Angel at the back of St Clements. Directly almost as we had breakfasted I walked down to St James's Palace to see the guards relieved and Briton walked with me. Nancy was at the Inn under the Frizeur or Barber. Briton was well pleased with the Sight. The Guards were relieved exactly at 10' this Morn'. We dined at 2 o'clock today as we go in the Salisbury Coach at 4 this afternoon. Paid at the Angel this Afternoon 2. 5. 3. Gave to Servants there ab^t o. 9. 6. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 this Afternoon we got into a Hackney Coach with our Luggage and went to the Bell-Savage, Ludgate Hill, where staying a very little Time we got into the Salisbury Coach and sat of for Salisbury to which place we are [to] get to breakfast to Morrow Morn' by 8. For the Hackney Coach to Ludgate Hill pd o. 1. 6. To some New Cord for our Trunks pd o. o. 6. N.B. the Angel is now kept by a Mrs. Watson, late a widow.

June 13, Saturday. Thank God we gat safe and well to Salisbury this Morning by 8 o'clock and not much fatigued. The Coach was full, 6 of us in Number, 2 Men and 4 Women, 2 of the Women, servants to the Honourable Coventry Berkeley. Paid and gave to the Coachman and Guard, and for our eating and drinking in the Night ab^t o. 7. 0. To the other Coachman at Salisbury gave o. 2. 0. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the black Horse, in Winchester-Street, Salisbury kept by one Webb, a very good House. We walked but little about Salisbury today being rather fatigued. Nancy bore her Journey still very well, eat and drink quite heartily on the road. For a common

dull on leaving my dear Miss Donne': see vol. ii, pp. 134, 141, and 142, various entries in May, June, and July, 1784.

Pocket Knife at Sarum pd o. 1. 6. For the remaining part of our fare paid for our Luggage from London to Salisbury to the Coachman paid 1. 15. o. which with 1. 1. o advanced before make 2. 16. o. that is for 2 Insides at 18/o 1. 16. o for 1 outside 12/o. Luggage 8/o. 1. o. o.

June 14, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at the black Horse at Salisbury. We had a charming Night of Sleep thank God the last Night and are quite hearty and well. In the afternoon we walked to the Cathedral and heard Divine Service performed.

June 15, Monday. We breakfasted at Salisbury and soon after took a Post Chaise and sat of for Hindon. Paid and gave at the black Horse 1. 19. 6. For a new Glass to my Watch at Sarum pd o. o. 6. In our road to Hindon we called at Fonthill and saw Fonthill House belonging to Mr. Beckford,¹ and a very handsome, complete, Highly furnished House it is, highly worth seeing by any Person. I gave to the Housekeeper for showing it o. 2. 6. We got to Hindon about 2 o'clock this Afternoon and there being another Chaise to be had we only changed Chaises and went on for Stourhead where we dined and spent part of Aft. For the Salisbury Chaise to Hindon and stopping at Fonthill House pd o. 18. 6. For a horse for Briton to ditto at 4½^d pd o. 4. o. To the Driver gave o. 2. o. Paid and gave at Stourhead o. 9. 6. For a chaise to Cole from Stour-

¹ The Fonthill Abbey estate had been acquired by the famous West India Merchant and Lord Mayor of London, William Beckford (1709-70), and was left by him to his son, also William Beckford, together with a million in capital and £100,000 a year. William Beckford the younger (1759-1844) was the author of the romance *Vathek*; at the present date he was travelling on the continent. Later on he returned and settled down at Fonthill which he rebuilt on a stupendous scale, and finally had to sell (see D.N.B.).

head and for a Horse for Briton paid o. 13. 6. We got to my Sister Pounsett's at Cole this Even' about 8 o'clock and thank God hearty and well. We found both Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett but indifferent, my sister rather low and Mr. Pounsett very hobbling with the gout. Nancy's new Sister-in-Law was at Cole expecting us and Will^m was gone to meet us. He soon came to us at Cole and they supped there. To the Driver of the Stourhead Chaise gave o. 2. 6. We supped and slept at Cole. To Turnpikes today paid about o. 1. 6.

June 17, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. My Brother John and Wife and Mrs. Richard Clarke, dined and spent the Afternoon at Cole. My Brother looks very well but is very nervous.

June 19, Friday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' at Cole. At Noon my Brother came after Nancy in Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes Chaise and took her with him to their House at Cary where she dined, supped and slept. About 1 o'clock I took a Walk and Briton with me to my Brothers at C. Cary, and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke, Mr. James Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett, my Sister Clarke, Will^m Woodforde and Wife, and Robert White's Wife, Sophy White and Nancy Woodforde. We had for Dinner, some Maccarel, Ham and Chicken, a fore Q^r of Lamb, Custard and Gooseberry Pye, and a hearty Welcome. Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett went and returned on horseback. I returned as I went and Briton with me about 8.

June 20, Saturday. . . . My Sister Pounsett not very well and very low with it. Spent most of the Day in fishing for Eels.

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June 23, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined &c again at Cole.

My Brother John brought Nancy back to Cole about Noon in Mrs. R. Clarke's Chaise, and she dined, supped and slept at Cole. My Brother dined and spent the Aft. with us. Spent most of the Morning in fishing had tolerable good sport, caught 2 brace of Trout.

June 24, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Pounsett and Nancy got up this Morning between 3 and 4 o'clock to go to Bath after Jenny Pounsett from School, they went in Ansford Inn Chaise, they did not return till near 11 o'clock at Night, but thank God all well. Jenny Pounsett greatly altered for the better. Will^m Woodforde's Wife returned with them from Shepton-Mallett, but did not stay long, she returned to Ansford in the Chaise. Nancy supped and slept at Cole again. Nancy saw Mrs. Atfield (late Miss Short) at Bath. I caught a very fine Trout this Morning it measured 19 Inches in length. My Sister Pounsett, Betsy Guppy and self dined upon it. It was 12 o'clock before we got to bed to night.

June 26, Friday. . . . About Noon I took a Walk by myself to Ansford and Castle-Cary, called on my Sister Clarke and dined and spent the Afternoon at my Brothers with him, his Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke. In my Walk to Ansford met Will^m Woodforde's Wife going to Cole to spend the Day at Mr. Pounsetts. She was walking thither with her Servant with her. Went and saw my Niece Nancy Clarke at Betty Lancashire's where she now lives, she is just the same. To Children at Betty Lancashire's School gave o. o. 6. Before Dinner my Brother and self walked to Cary Church and Davy Maby the Clerk went with us. It has been greatly improved of late and is now as neat a Country Church as I almost ever saw. To My Brothers Servant

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Man Silas gave o. i. o. To little Mary White another Niece gave o. i. o. Returning home to Cole this Evening I met with old John Coles of Cary, a Man that used to go to Oxford for me, gave o. i. o. I returned to Cole about 8 o'clock. Will^m Woodforde and Wife I found at Cole on my return and they supped and stayed till near 10 with us.

June 28, Sunday. . . . My Brother dined and spent the Aft. with us again he came after Nancy in Mrs. R. Clarkes Chaise to go and spend a few days with her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde &c. We all drank Coffee and Tea at old Mrs. Pounsetts. My Brother and Nancy went for Cary between 7 and 8. We dined at 1 o'clock today being Sunday and Service in the Afternoon at Pitcomb Church. My Brother was late to Dinner, we had almost dined.

June 29, Monday. . . . Was out a fishing almost the whole Morning but had very little Sport, only 1 small Trout. Old Mr. Dalton and son John called on me this Morning stayed half an Hour with us. I did not know old Mr. Dalton at first as he now wears his Hair.¹ He lives at Pitcomb where old Mrs. Hunt lived. Mr. Sam Pounsett smoked a Pipe with us this Afternoon.

June 30, Tuesday. . . . About one o'clock I took a Walk to Ansford and Briton with me and then dined and spent the Afternoon at my Nephews Will^m Woodforde with him, his Wife, Sister Clarke, Brother John and Wife, Mr. J^s Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett and little

¹ Wigs had been going out of fashion for some time now: as early as 1765 the periwig makers had petitioned the king, complaining 'that men will wear their own hair' (see Horace Walpole's letter of February 12, 1765, to Lord Hertford: *Letters*, vol. vi, p. 188). It is significant from this entry of the Diary, that even the old were giving them up. Soon only the clergy would be faithful to a fashion which had been universal in Europe since the second half of the seventeenth century.

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Jane, and my Niece Anna Maria Woodforde. We had for Dinner, a boiled leg of Lamb with the Loin fryed and put round it, a Tongue, a bit of fat Pork, Peas, and a Couple of Ducks rosted, a baked rice Pudding and a Gooseberry Pye. My Brother John was getting at last rather unpleasing. Captain Dawe called and smoked a Pipe in the Aft. I returned to Cole as I went about 9 o'clock.

July 3, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Cole. To my old Fisherman, Jess Marshalls Son for half a fine Salmon at 9^d per Pound p^d o. 5. 3. Received a Letter this Morning from Mr. Du Quesne informing me that he intends being with us very soon and desiring an answer by return of Post, to him at Charles Howards Esq, Close, Litchfield. He was to set out from Norfolk as this Day. Mr. Pounsett brought the Letter from Bruton I p^d o. o. 10. I wrote an answer to Mr. Du Quesnes Letter this Morning, and sent it this Aft. to Cary by Robin Colley. Gave Robin Colley for carrying the same o. o. 2. To a poor old lame Man from New-England gave o. o. 3. Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife called here in the Evening but did not stay long with us. Mr. Leir of Ditcheat with his eldest Daughter made us a morning visit.

July 5, Sunday. . . . Briton went to my Brothers at Cary this Morning to dine with his Servants and go in the Aft. to Cary Church. He returned home to Cole about 9 this evening highly pleased with Cary and Ansford People. Old Mrs. Pounsett dined and spent the Afternoon with us.

July 6, Monday. . . . Received another Letter from Mr. Du Quesne this Morning by Robin Colley from Bruton, dated the 2 of July from East-Tuddenham, acquainting us that he now intends being at Cole

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Wednesday or Thursday next (deo volente) without fail. Mr. Frank Woodfordes two Children Tom and Fanny spent part of the Morn' dined and supped at Cole with their Cousin Jenny Pounsett. I spent most of the Day a fishing, caught a brace of Trout and three Eels.

July 7, Tuesday. . . . Got up this morning at 5 o'clock and went a fishing had fine sport with a large Trout and played him a good while, but in lifting him out of the Water the Line gave way or hook slipt and away he went. Sister Clarke, Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife, Robert White and Wife, dined and spent the Afternoon, and as it rained a good deal in the Evening they all supped and stayed till near 10 o'clock. A great deal of Hay about, very indifferent Weather for it. Mr. Pounsett has some about but not much.

July 8, Wednesday. . . . Had a Letter this Morning from my Servant Maid, Betty Dade from Weston Parsonage, all well. Mr. John Hunt and Mr. Nat. Webb of Rownall made us a morning Visit. My nephew James White of Shepton Mallett dined and spent the Afternoon with us. To a late Servant Maid of my Sister Pounsetts by name Molly, who is in a decline gave 0. 2. 6. About 8 o'clock this Evening Mr. Du Quesne arrived in a Post Chaise at Cole and his Servant J^s with him and he supped and slept at Mr. Pounsett's in my Room, and I slept at old Mrs. Pounsetts.

July 9, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined &c again at Cole. Mr. Du Quesne breakfasted, dined &c again at Cole. My Brother John brought Nancy to Cole this Morn' in Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes Chaise, and he stayed and dined and spent the afternoon with us. Nancy dined, supped and slept at Cole. William Woodforde and Wife dined and spent the Afternoon with us.

They did not come till dinner was taking away. Mr. Du Quesne and self spent most of the Morning in fishing, we caught 3 Trout and about 8 Eels.

July 11, Saturday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. Mr. Du Quesne breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. Sister Pounsett and Daughter, my Niece Nancy and self with Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon at Ansford, at Mr. Frank Woodforde's with him and his Wife, at Ansford Parsonage the Place and House in which I was born and lived many Years but had not been in it before this day, for almost fifteen years, owing to a disagreement between us, which now I hope will be ever done away. The House and Garden greatly altered for the best. We had a very good Dinner, a fine Piece of fresh Salmon, a Leg of Mutton rosted, fricasseed Rabbit, a Couple of Ducks rosted and Peas, a currant Pye and Syllabubs &c. A good Desert of Fruit after Dinner, Strawberries, Cherries and Currants. Mr. Frank behaved very hearty and generous to us as did his Wife, who seemed to be very attentive. Between Dinner and Tea I took a Walk by myself to my Uncle Toms and saw him and his Wife who were both glad to see me, both very old. We returned to Cole before 9 o'clock this Even' as we went, that is, Mr. Du Quesne, Sister Pounsett and Daughter and Nancy in Ansford Inn Chaise. I walked thither and back again with Briton. Some small Rain fell during my return back. Sister Clarke drank Tea with us at Ansford Parsonage this Afternoon.

July 13, Monday. . . . We all dined at Mr. James Clarkes at Ansford that is, Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett, Nancy, Mr. Du Quesne, and self. We went and returned in

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Ansford Inn Chaise. Captain Stephens, my Brother John and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Will^m Woodforde and Wife, Painter Clarke, and the Doctor in all 12 sat down to Dinner. My Brother John, Parson Marsh, Captain Dawe and Son spent the Afternoon with us at the Doctors. Captain Stephens appears to have been a travelled man, and very sensible, and polite in the extreme. We had for Dinner a fine whole Salmon, boiled Chicken and a Pigs face, Peas and Beans, a fore Q^r of Lamb rosted, Currant and gooseberry Pies, Custards, Syllabubs &c.

July 14, Tuesday. . . . I caught a very fine Trout this morning about a Pound and half. Mr. Du Quesne was out with me a fishing but could not catch a Trout. Mrs. Webb and Son of Rownall, Mr. John Hunt and a Miss Nettleship Mr. Hunts intended, dined and spent the Afternoon with us at Cole. We had for Dinner a fine Dish of Fish most of my catching, Ham and Chicken, Peas and Beans, a Leg of Mutton rosted, a Couple of Ducks, Currant and Apricot Tarts, Barberry Tarts and Custards.

July 15, Wednesday. . . . Busy most of the Morning as it was wet in making up some new Trout lines and for Eels. Sister White of Shepton Mallett and her grand-daughter Sophia White dined and spent the Afternoon with us. My Sister, thank God, looks well. William Woodforde and Wife spent the Afternoon mostly with us, they dined at Bruton. Sister White &c. left us about 6 o'clock this Even' to return to Shepton Mallett to night. She came from thence this morning in a Shepton Chaise. After Tea this Evening we got to Quadrille at which I lost at 2^d per Fish o. o. 6. Mr. Martin the Attorney of Bruton who was most violently taken with a paralytic Stroke at his

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Brothers at Pennard last Friday or Saturday is we heard to day somewhat better.

July 16, Thursday. . . . Soon after breakfast Mr. Du Quesne and myself went out a fishing and stayed out till 12 o'clock. Mr. Du Quesne caught one very small Trout and one Eel. I caught two brace of Trout and two Eels, one brace of the Trout was very good. As soon as Mr. Du Quesne and self had dressed ourselves which was about 1 o'clock we took a walk thro' Hatspen, to the Lime-kiln that was, and near Hatspen House, round thro' Park furlongs and thro' the Angel at Cary to Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes where we dined and spent the Afternoon with her, My Brother John and Wife who live with her, Mr. James Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett, Jenny Pounsett and my niece Anna Maria Woodforde. We had for Dinner a fine Brill with a pair of very fine Soals fryed, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, Pork and Beans, hashed Calfs Head, a Couple of Chicken rosted, Pies, Tarts, and Custards, young Potatoes and Turnips. Desert after Dinner, great Plenty of Cherries and Strawberries, red and white Currants. Between Dinner and Tea, my Brother, self and Mr. Du Quesne walked to Cary Church to shew it Mr. Du Quesne, which he very much admired. From thence we walked to where Mr. Thomas the Curate of Cary lodged but he was not at home. He was asked to dine with us to day but did not. Mr. Du Quesne wanted to see him much to enquire the nearest way to St. Davids in Pembroke-shire as he is going thither when he leaves us. We all returned to Cole about 9 o'clock as we went, Mr. Du Quesne and self on foot, Mr. Pounsett on horseback, and Jenny, Nancy and little Jenny in Ansford Inn Chaise, we were at Cole near together. Mr. Du

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Quesne and self had a good share of exercise to day. As we went to Cary we met Mr. Robert White going to Cole. We saw also Mrs. Cary of Hatspen late Patty Perry, a good kind of a Woman.

July 19, Sunday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne and self walked this morning to Bruton Church, sat in the large Seat in the Chancel. We were misinformed about the time Divine Service began, as we were informed that it began at 11 instead of that it began at 10 this morning, consequently we were one Hour behind, and did not get to Church till just before the Communion Service. A Mr. Roberts read Prayers and Preached there. A large Congregation attended at Church. Mr. Robert White and Wife dined and spent the Afternoon at Cole, they came over on foot from Ansford. Fanny Woodforde from the Parsonage came over with them. Old Mrs. Pounsett dined and spent the After. with us. In the Afternoon Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Pounsett, self and Mr. Robert White walked up to Mr. Samuel Pounsetts and smoked a Pipe with him at Cole-Style and he gave us some Cock-a-gee-Cyder. We returned back to Coffee and Tea. We had for Dinner some Fish, Trout, Whitings and Eels, some boiled Beef and a Loin of Veal &c. Mr. White and Wife and Fanny Woodforde left us ab^t 8.

July 20, Monday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne breakfasted at Cole and about 11 o'clock he took his leave of us, got into one of Ansford Inn Chaises with his Servant Man, James, with him and went of for Bristol, the road to South-Wales. Mr. Du Quesne is going to St. Davids in Pembrokeshire. At one o'clock or a little after, Sister Pounsett, Nancy and self went in one of Ansford Inn Chaises to Mr. Webbs at Roundhill and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Mother,

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and Mr. Pounsett who went on horseback. We had for Dinner, 3 boiled Chicken &c, Ham, a Rump of Beef roasted, Beans, a Couple of Ducks roasted, and Tarts. We returned home to Cole about 9 o'clock. Nat. Webb pushed about the Bottle pretty brisk. Two of his Nephews by name Jekell dined with us. I slept in my old Bed again.

July 21, Tuesday. . . . Spent most of the Day a fishing, caught 4 Eels and one small Trout, rather tired this Even'. Old Mrs. Pounsett came over to us just as we had dined, was in a violent Passion for not sending her some rost Shoulder of Veal for Dinner, she only said, Why did you not send me some rost Veal and walked away immediately to her own House—I was very sorry to see it.

July 22, Wednesday. . . . My Brother John came after Nancy this Morning in Mrs. R. Clarkes Chaise and he stayed and dined and spent the Afternoon with us, but was very far from being agreeable, as he was forward in Liquor and had been so the whole Day, last night was a wet night with him at Cary. I walked up to Mr. Daltons about Noon and spent half an hour with Mrs. Dalton and her 2 Daughters. Nancy returned with my Brother to Cary this evening. She is gone to spend a few Days with her Aunt W.

July 24, Friday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. To a Fisherman for a fine Crab, 4 P^d, pd o. i. o. Very great Rebellion in France by the Papers¹—The Bath

¹ Parson Woodforde has just heard of the fall of the Bastille on July 14, the earliest of the many acts of violence in that long drawn out event, compounded almost equally of Poetry and Crime, called the French Revolution. Upon that day the Parisian mob—a hundred of whom had been killed in the attack on the prison—tasted their first blood, the governor of the Bastille and several other persons having their heads impaled on pikes. Violence thereafter spread to the provinces, and the glow of burning

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Paper (the only Paper taken in here) comes every Friday Morning. Mr. Robert Clarke of Castle-Cary spent the Aft. with us. He was drove in by the Rain, as he was going to Bruton, and stayed till the Evening, he did not go to Bruton.

July 25, Saturday. . . . Soon after breakfast I went out a fishing by myself, into Wilmots Orchard as it is called and stayed there till Dinner time near 3 o'clock had very good sport, caught 3 fine Trout, the largest about 1 p^d and $\frac{1}{4}$, and 4 fine Eels, all in the above Orchard. Also very near catching a fine Trout about 2 Pound, but in landing of it, the top of the Rod gave way and so lost it.

July 26, Sunday. . . . Walked to Pitcomb Church this Afternoon with my Sister and her Daughter and heard Rich^d Goldsborough read Prayers and Preach, a very good Sermon. Hobhouse¹ at Church but none of the Daltons. We did not dine till after Divine Service. Old Mrs. Pounsett dined and spent the Aft. with us. My Brother John spent the Afternoon with us.

July 30, Thursday. . . . Soon after breakfast I walked up to Willmots Orchard and garden a fishing, and stayed out to 2 o'clock and had fine Sport indeed. Caught three fine Trout, the largest about 1 Pound and half and 15 Inches long, the other 2 were 12 Inches long and about a p^d each. Mr. Pounsett sent the large Trout and another to Mrs. Donne of Westcomb with a brace of Pigeons. After Tea and Coffee this evening, Sister Pounsett, her Daughter and self took a Walk to Sally Pointons' saw her Father and Mother and Sister

chateaus ascended into the night. While all this was going on in France, Parson Woodforde and 5,000 peaceful country neighbours of all classes were joyfully greeting King George III and his family at Sherborne Park, see entry for August 4.

¹ See vol. ii, p. 258, foot-note.

Peggy. The Mother is now in her ninetieth year and her Husband in his seventy sixth year, both pretty hearty especially the latter who was very busy and working in his garden in his Shirt Sleeves. I gave to each of them one Shilling, o. 2. 0.

July 31, Friday. . . . Soon after Dinner by so much rain in the Morn' there was quite a flood at Cole, the Water in the garden near level with the Walks, but it soon abated, it came very sudden upon us. Scarce time enough to draw the Hatches. It was all over the road by the Bridge. After Tea this Afternoon we got to Cards lost o. 1. 6.

Aug. 2, Sunday. . . . Rec^d a Letter this morning from Mr. Du Quesne at Mr. Holcombes at St. Davids Pembrokeshire talks of nothing but his own fatigues &c. My Sister Pounsett, her Daughter and self walked to Pitcomb Church this morning and heard Rich^d Goldsborough read Prayers and Preach. As we went to Church Mr. Dalton and Miss Mary D. joined us. Just as Divine Service was over, we had some Rain but not much, we were detained a little time. As we returned we went into Mr. Daltons, and stayed a few Minutes, saw Mrs. Dalton and her eldest Daughter. We dined in the Pantry to day on Beef-Stakes &c.

Aug. 3, Monday. . . . My Brother and his Wife spent the Afternoon with us, they came over on purpose to let us know that Mrs. Melliar had sent them word that the King, Queen and some more of the Royal Family were to dine at Sherborn to Morrow at Lord Digbys,¹ and that they go to Morrow. They drank Tea with us and went away ab^t 8 o'clock.

¹ Henry Digby, seventh Baron (1731-93). Shortly after this royal visit to his ancestral seat at Sherborne he was created an Earl (1790). He was a friend of Horace Walpole's whose letters contain several references to him.

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Aug. 4, Tuesday. Dies Memorabilis. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. I rose this morning at 6 o'clock, shaved and dressed, and at 7 I went in a Bruton Chaise and my Niece Jenny Pounsett with me, to my Brothers at C. Cary and there we made a second breakfast, after that my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and Nancy, a Dr. Brodum who is a German Doctor, Mr. James Clarke and Wife and the latters Brother Mr. Will^m Dawe, all sat of about 9 o'clock for Sherborne to see the Royal Family, and we went in the following manner, the German Dr. with Mrs. J^s Clarke, old Mrs. Ashford and Mr. Gardner all in Dr. Brodums Chariot, my Brother and his Wife in Mrs. R. Clarkes Chair, Mrs. R. Clarke, Nancy and Jenny Pounsett in the Bruton Chaise, Mr. James Clarke and myself in his Phaeton, and Mr. Will^m Dawe on my Brother John's Horse. We got to Sherborne about 11 o'clock, had some White Wine Negus at the Antelope, and then we all went down to Lord Digby's Park, and there walked about till about 12 o'clock, at which time, the King, Queen, Princess Royal, Princess Elizabeth, and Princess Augusta arrived in the Park in three Royal Coaches with 4 Horses to each. We were very near them as they passed by. After they had taken some refreshment, they all walked upon the Terrace before the Crowd. We were all very near indeed to them, the King looked very red and is very tall and erect, The Queen and Princesses rather short but very pleasing Countenances and fair. After the Royal Family had walked round the Garden, they returned into Lord Digby's for a time. The King walked first with Lord Digby who held his hat in his hand, The Kings Hat was on, then the Queen with her Lady in waiting, then the Princess Royal and her

Attendant Lady, then Princess Elizabeth and her Attendant Lady, then Princess Augusta and her attendant Lady. The King was in his Windsor Uniform, blue coat with red Cape and Cuffs to the Sleeves, with a plain round Hat with a black Ribband round it, The Queen was in a purple Silk, and white Bonnett, The Princesses all in Pink Silk and white Bonnets. After they had been within Doors about an Hour They all came into the Park, the King on horseback, The Queen and Princesses and their Ladies, in two open Carriages, and they all passed thro' the Multitude, I was close to them as they passed. They took a ride quite round the Park, and were I suppose in performing it near 3 Hours. The King returned to the House by Water—The Queen and Princesses returned in their Carriages. They then went to Dinner at Lord Digbys. It was 5 o'clock this Afternoon before they got into Lord Digbys. Our Company then made the best of our way to our Inn to dine also. Nancy and the other Ladies bore the fatigue pretty well, we were obliged often to sit on the grass in the Park, being there almost 6 Hours. It was a most delightful Day, thank God for it. John Goldsborough and Wife, Sam. Gatehouse and his Wife and 2 little Children, Miss Mogg Daughter of Mrs. Goldsborough by a former Husband, my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke, Nancy, Jenny Pounsett, and myself, dined all together at the Antelope, on cold Ham and Veal, cold boiled Beef, Tarts &c. Some of the Ladies too tired to eat much—in short we were all tired pretty well—I eat very hearty. There were in the Park I suppose near 5000. The two Clubbs of Sherborne met the Royal Family at the entrance of the Park with Musick preceding them and Colours

flying. Colours flying on the Church and Bells ringing. Lady Waldegrave and Lady Courtown, Lord Courtown, with Colonel Gwyn, Colonel Goldsworthy and Colonel Digby arrived with the Royal Visitors from Weymouth to Sherborne Castle. About an Hour after we had dined we called for the reckoning and sat of for Castle-Cary &c. The Gentlemen paid the Bill, each of us o. 10. 0. Mr. James Clarke and his Party dined at Mrs. Dawes who lives at Sherborne and is Mother to James Clarkes Wife—Dr. Brodum boards at her House. The above Company remained at Sherborne all Night, intending to go to Weymouth to Morrow. The Royal Visitors were to return to Weymouth to sleep to night—Pray God bless them all. I returned with my Brother in his Chair. We did not reach Cary till near 11 at night, I then got into the Bruton Chaise with my Niece Jane Pounsett and we got to Cole about 12, and there I supped, smoked a Pipe and went to bed, very sleepy and much fatigued. We all I thank God returned safe and well after spending a long Day of much pleasure. Lord Digby's Park with the Water most Delightfull. I gave the Driver of the Chaise o. 1. 0.

Aug. 6, Thursday. . . . To a poor Italian Lad for 2 Maps pd o. 2. 0. one a Plan of London the other of the World. Robert Clarke of C. Cary spent about an Hour with us, after Tea this Evening.

Aug. 7, Friday. . . . I sent a Letter to my Sister White of Shepton-Mallett, last night by Mr. Robert Clarke who goes thro' that Place to Morrow in his way to the Musick Meeting at Wells to Morrow. I sent my Sister word that my Sister Pounsett, Nancy and self would pay our respects to her and Son on Tuesday or Thursday next. Mrs. Donne of Batcomb with

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a Mrs. Salmon, called here this Afternoon and drank Tea and Coffee with us. Mrs. Donne has been very ill and is still weak. They left us about 7 o'clock this Evening. Will^m Woodforde spent part of the Morning here. Rec^d another Letter from my Maid all things well at Weston.

Aug. 10, Monday. . . . To a poor old Italian that was shipwrecked and in great distress gave him o. i. o. for which he was very thankful. Mr. Frank Woodforde and Daughter Fanny, Sister Clarke, Mr. James Clarke and Wife and with them Jenny Ashford, dined and spent the After. with us. Mr. Frank Woodforde's Wife could not come, as she was at Will^m Woodforde's whose Wife was taken in labour pains this morning but was not brought to bed when they came from Ansford. We had for Dinner 3 boiled Chicken and a Ham, Peas and Beans, a Surloin of Beef rosted, an Apricot Tart and a Batter Pudding.

Aug. 11, Tuesday. . . . My Sister Pounsett, Nancy and self went in a Bruton Chaise this morning to my Sister Whites at Shepton Mallet and there dined and spent the Afternoon with her and her Son James. We had for Dinner a Couple of boiled Chicken and Pigs face, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers a Couple of Ducks rosted and a Codlin Tart. I called on Lawyer White and his Wife and Miss Hole. Lawyer White is now very weak and infirm. After Tea we returned to Cole thro' Ansford. We called at Will^m Woodforde's whose Wife is still very bad and not yet brought to bed.

Aug. 12, Wednesday. . . . Sent Briton very early to Ansford this morning to enquire after Will^m Woodforde's Wife and he returned before breakfast, but brought us a worse account than ever of Mrs. Wood-

forde. However before we had finished breakfast, Will. Coleman came over on horseback to inform us that Mrs. Will^m Woodforde was delivered of her Burden and had got a Daughter. It gave us all pleasure to hear of it. I settled Accounts with Mr. Pounsett this morning and received on the balance 11. 11. 0. but of which I gave him for his Daughter 2. 2. 0. . . .

Aug. 13, Thursday. . . . About 12 o'clock Mr. Pounsett and self went to Ansford to dine at Ansford Inn on Turtle and Venison. I walked, Mr. Pounsett rode thither. Before I went to Ansford Inn called on Will^m Woodforde and Wife, the latter very well in her Situation. Walked over my Estate also that Robin Shoard rents. Called also at Dr. Clarkes and my Brothers, both of whom went with me to Ansford Inn where we dined and spent the Afternoon till 9 at Night with the following Gentlemen, Captain Stephens and Mr. Nichols, Captain Johnson, Mr. Frank Woodforde, Mr. Pounsett, Mr. John Burge, Mr. Sam. Burge, Mr. Blackmore, Mr. Grant and Mr. Jⁿ Francis. We had for Dinner several Tureens of Turtle, as fine a Haunch of Venison as one would wish to see, also a large Venison Pasty and a Neck of Venison, Pies &c. The Turtle weighed 40 lb. There were only thirteen of us at Table. Claret, Madeira and Port Wine at and after Dinner. We drank all the Claret that Wheeler had, which was only one Dozen. I drank mostly of Claret. We each of us paid for ordinary and extra 0. 17. 0. N.B. Another Meeting again on Wednesday next to decide some bets between 2 Horses running that Day. Each Gentleman betted a Guinea and the Winnings spent at Ansford Inn. Mr. Pounsett and self got home about 10 o'clock this Evening. Nichols

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and Grants Horses to run and each to ride his own Horse.

Aug. 17, Monday. . . . I walked out a fishing after breakfast and caught a brace of middling Trout. Sister White of Shepton Mallett and her grand-daughter Jane White came here about Dinner, and they dined, supped and slept at Cole. One Mr. Doddrill who is a Clerk to my Nephew James White drove them over in a one horse Chaise and he dined here and returned in the Even'. Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife, my Brothers Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke drank Tea with us this Afternoon and stayed till near 8 o'clock.

Aug. 18, Tuesday. . . . My Sister Pounsett began taking the Decoction of the Bark, pray God it may do her good. She takes a small Tea Cup Twice in a Day by the Advice of Doctor Sampson.

Aug. 19, Wednesday. . . . About 1 o'clock Mr. Pounsett went with me to Ansford where we dined and spent the Afternoon at Ansford Inn with Mr. Stephens, Mr. Nicholls, Captain Dampier, my Brother John, Mr. J^s Clarke, Mr. John Burge, Mr. Sam. Burge, Captⁿ Johnson, Mr. Frank Woodforde, Mr. Blackmore, Mr. Grant and Mr. John Francis. We met to day by appointment to spend the Betts lost at racing which was decided this morning at King-Weston in favour of Mr. Grant against Mr. Nicholls, but it was hardly run as I was informed. I lost as all the other Losers did 1. 1. 0. We had for Dinner very large and fat Haunch of Venison, a Neck also and Venison Pasty with Fish, Rabbits, Chicken &c. The Venison was very indifferent and not done. Claret, Madeira and Port Wine at and after Dinner, the Claret was very good. Mr. Grant being Winner was in the Chair. It was about 10 o'clock before we got home. 'There were

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many completely knocked up, particularly Nicholls, Dampier, Sam Burge &c. Besides the Guinea apiece for every Loser we each of us paid besides o. 8. 6. I paid for my Brother John o. 8. 6. Mr. Pounsett went on horseback thither and back and I walked by the side of him. As I drank no Wine but Claret, I was pretty well but being rather tired by walking was glad to go to bed after smoking a Pipe after Supper. Captain Johnson invited Mr. Pounsett and me to Dinner on Tuesday next and that he would send his Carriage after the Ladies. My Brothers Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke dined and spent the Afternoon at Cole with my Sister Pounsett &c.

Aug. 20, Thursday. . . . We all dined and spent the Afternoon at Ansford at Mr. Frank Woodforde's, with him, his Wife, and Mr. James Clarke. Sister White, Sister Pounsett, Nancy and little Jane White went and returned in Ansford Inn Chaise which I hired for them. We had for Dinner some Soals not quite fresh, a rost Shoulder of Mutton, a Couple of Chicken roasted and a plumb Tart. We got home to Cole by 8 o'clock. Jenny Pounsett went and returned on horseback behind the Servant. Mr. Pounsett rode, I walked.

Aug. 23, Sunday. . . . After Tea this Evening we all took a Walk towards Bruton, as it was a fine pleasant Evening. In our Walk we met with Mrs. Jⁿ Goldsborough, Miss Mogg, Mrs. Burge, Miss Nancy Whitehead, Miss Sampson, Captain Goldsborough, Captain Dampier and Son. We all joined Parties and walked together till near 8 o'clock.

Aug. 24, Monday. . . . Robin Shoard a Tenant of mine called on me about 8 o'clock this Evening and paid me a Years Rent due April 5. 1789 the sum of 35. o. o. To ditto for 1 y^{rs} Poor and Church Rates p^d 1. 7. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

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Aug. 25, Tuesday. . . . Sister White breakfasted with us and soon after she took a Walk to Ansford with her G. Daughter Jane White, and there they dined, supped and slept. Sally Pointing walked with them to carry a Basket. At 2 o'clock Sister Pounsett, Nancy and self went in Mr. Verney's Carriage to Captain Johnsons at Castle-Cary where Mr. Creed formerly lived, and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with Captain Johnson and Wife, Mr. Verney, Mr. Pounsett, Mr. Frank Woodforde and his Wife. Mr. Verney is a very handsome young Man about 25 Years of Age, but most unfortunately deranged in his mental faculties. He is the eldest son of Lord Willoughby de Broke. Captain Johnson has the sole Care of him, Mr. Verney is not often outrageous, behaved very polite, talks much of the Nobility, and eats very hearty indeed—Pray God bless him. We returned as we went in Mr. Verneys Carriage only left Nancy at Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes on our return to spend a few Days at Castle-Cary. Mr. Pounsett rode thither and back on horseback. I gave Mr. Verneys Driver by name J^s o. 2. 6. Captain Johnson appears to be a good natured cheerful Man but was never bred up in a Court. Mrs. Johnson near the same.

Aug. 26, Wednesday. . . . Yarlington Fairs to day, none of us went. Edward Gore, formerly a Tenant of ours called on me this morning. He has been in great distress, was put into Ilchester Goal for Debt to James Clarke and was in it a twelve month. I gave the poor Fellow o. 5. 0 for which he was very thankful. . .

Aug. 27, Thursday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett and Jenny with me dined and spent the Afternoon at Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes with her, my Brother and Wife and A. M. Woodforde. I walked thither and back. Mr. Rob^t

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Woodforde of Taunton spent the Afternoon with us. He has been down to his Brothers and left his Son under his Care. I gave my Brother to give to him £. 1. 0 as he is rather distressed and is going to London. Captain Steven's Wife and Daughter drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon. . . .

Aug. 28, Friday. . . . Miss Tucker with a Daughter of Fanny Collins' dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Benjamin Collins brought her over on horseback. He went to Cary and there dined with his Brother. My Brother and Robert Woodforde dined and spent the Afternoon with us, as did old Mrs. Pounsett and Mr. Sam. Pounsett. . . .

Aug. 29, Saturday. . . . Martha Davidge of Ansford and a Tenant of mine called on me and paid me £. 2. 2. 0, remaining due to me from her besides £. 14. 6. which Arrears I forgave her and lowered her Rent from 4 Guineas to 3 Guineas per Annum. . . .

Septem. 1, Tuesday. . . . A favourable Morning for the poor Partridges as it rained a good deal, most part of it. Went out a fishing all the Morning and was very wet and very unsuccessful caught only one Eel. My Brother John and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke dined, supped and slept at Cole. My Brother and Wife slept at old Mrs. Pounsetts. Mrs. R. Clarke slept at my Sisters with Nancy W. and Jenny Pounsett. Nancy returned home from C. Cary with Mrs. R. Clarke and she dined, supped and slept here. We had for Dinner some Whiting and Trout, a boiled Round of Beef, a Couple of Ducks rosted and Peas, Cheese-Cakes, Apple Pye, and black Puddings. Peaches and Apricots after Dinner. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards. My Brother and Sister Pounsett, Mrs. J. Woodforde and Jenny P. at Cribbage. Mr. Pounsett, Mrs. R. Clarke,

myself and Nancy at Quadrille. I lost o. i. o. Nancy lost half a Crown. We had for Supper hash'd Duck, Minced Veal &c. It was almost 12 o'clock before we got to bed.

Septem. 2, Wednesday. . . . My Brother and Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke breakfasted, dined and spent the Afternoon at Cole. My Brother and Mr. Pounsett went out a Coursing this morning and brought home a fine Hare. I went out a fishing and brought home a brace of Trout and a Couple of Eels. My brother was taken giddy whilst he was out and came home but he soon grew better after taking some Brandy and went out again and was very well thank God all the Day after. We all dined and spent the Afternoon at old Mrs. Pounsetts and were most generously treated. We had for Dinner a fine Dish of Trout, a Couple of Chicken boiled and an excellent Ham, a Leg of Mutton rosted, Peas, a Neck of Pork rosted and Apple Sauce, 2 boiled plumb Puddings, a Plumb Pye and Apple Pye. After Dinner Apricots and Plumbs, Apples and 2 Plates of Filberts. We all drank Coffee and Tea there in the Afternoon. Mrs. Rich^d Clarke with my Brother and his Wife returned home to C. Cary soon after Coffee &c. Soon after they were gone, Mr. Pounsett, Sister P. Nancy and Self got to Quadrille. I won o. i. o.

Sept. 5, Saturday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, and spent part of the Morn' at Cole. About 11 o'clock this morn' my Brother came after Nancy in Mrs. Clarke's Chaise, and Mr. J^s Clarke sent over his Phaeton for my Sister and self. I drove my Sister in the Phaeton and my Brother drove Nancy in the one Horse Chaise. We got to Mrs. Rich^d Clarke's by 12 o'clock. From Mrs.

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Clarkes I drove the Phaeton to Mr. J^s Clarke's, there left it and then took a Walk to my Uncle's stayed about $\frac{1}{2}$ an Hour with my Aunt and then called at Will^m Woodfordes, Mr. Frank Woodfordes and my Sister Clarkes, then walked to Castle-Cary called on old Mr. Francis and there changed a Norwich Bank Bill for Cash 10. o. o then walked to Mr. James Clarkes and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, my Brother and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy, Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife, Mr. Pounsett and his Wife. We had for Dinner some Beef Stakes, a large Loin of Veal rosted, some Tripe, Peas and Beans and an Apple Pye and Custards. We returned home about 8 o'clock, I drove my Sister back in Mr. Clarkes Phaeton and Mr. Pounsett returned as he went on horseback. Nancy is to sleep at My Brothers to night. Gave Mr. Clarkes Man, Ambrose, for having back the Phaeton this Evening o. i. o. Rec^d this Morning of my Tenant Ned Dyke for 1 y^{rs} Rent due June 24, 1789, i. i. o. Gave him out of it o. i. o.

Sep. 7, Monday. . . . Sister Pounsett very low on the thoughts of our leaving Cole to Morrow. Pray God comfort her. Gave Will^m Arnold this Evening o. i. o.

Sept. 8, Tuesday. I breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' at Cole. Nancy breakfasted and spent part of the Morn' at Cole. At 11 o'clock this Morn' we took our Leave of Cole and went in Ansford Inn Chaise and my Sister Pounsett with us and Mr. Pounsett on horseback to Castle Cary, there we left my Sister and Mr. Pounsett at Mrs. Rich^d Clarkes, after taking Leave of them, my Brother and Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke, we went on to my Uncles at Ansford took leave of him and my Aunt, and went to Will^m Woodfordes and saw them, then to Mr. Frank Woodfordes saw

Mrs. F. Woodforde and Daughter, and then went to my Sister Clarkes and took our Leave of her, and then went on to Shepton-Mallett and called on my Sister White stayed some little time with her and then went on to old Downe where we took Chaise and Horses for Bath. My Nephew Will^m Woodforde went with us on horseback but did not go with us to Sister Whites. At Cole, gave my Sisters Maid Nanny o. 7. 6. To her other Maid Betty Troakes o. 5. o. To her Servant Man Philip o. 5. o. To old Mrs. Pounsetts Maids, Sybil and Sally o. 5. o. To the poor Orphan Betsy Guppy gave o. 5. o. My Sister Pounsett parted with us as well as I could expect, but still with great apparent regrets. Pray God Almighty bless her and protect her. Briton left Somersett with great Reluctance. Paid for Ansford Inn Chaise and Horse for Briton 1. o. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. Gave the Driver of the Chaise o. 2. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Chaise and Horses very indifferent indeed. To Rum and Water at old Downe pd o. o. 3. My Nephew Will^m got into our Chaise at old Downe and Briton rode on his Horse to Bath to which place We got thank God safe and well. about 4 in the Afternoon and there we dined, supped and slept at the Christopher Inn near the Market Place kept by a Widow Woman by name Granger, a very civil Woman. For old Downe Chaise to Bath pd o. 13. 3. Gave the Driver, a very good one o. 2. o. To poor old Robin Colley at Cary gave o. 1. o.

Sep. 9, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at Bath. Nancy breakfasted dined &c. at Bath. My Nephew Will^m breakfasted dined and spent part of the Afternoon with us at Bath. About 4 o'clock my Nephew took his Leave of us and returned to Ansford on horseback. We spent most of the Morning at Bath

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in walking. We called on Mrs. Atfield (late Miss Short) this morning at her Lodgings in Trim Street, and were very cordially received. To pair of Octagon Silver Knee Buckles pd 7. 0. To fruit this morning pd o. 1. 3. Nancy and self drank Coffee and Tea this Afternoon at Mrs. Atfields. Nancy supped with her. I supped by myself at the Christopher. I went after my Niece about 10 o'clock this Even' and she returned with me to our Inn. I took 2 Inside Places in the Royal Blue Coach from the Christopher to London for to Morrow Afternoon which carries 4 inside and one outside. I took also an outside for my Servant Briton, paid down, 1. 11. 6.

Sep. 10, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, and spent part of the Afternoon at Bath and Nancy did the same. Mrs. Atfield breakfasted with us at our Inn. Nancy bought a new Mourning Ring this Morn' for her Sister and she paid for it 2. 2. 0. She had it at Baskett's Shop near the Circus. To Fruit &c this morning pd o. 2. 6. At 4 o'clock we got into the Royal Blue Coach for London and only us in it. Paid and gave at the Christopher ab^t 2. 13. 0. We walked about Bath a great deal this Morn'.

Sep. 11, Friday. After travelling all Night in the Coach we got (I thank God) safe to London about 11 o'clock this Morning. I was very ill in the Night soon after we got into the Coach after Supper at Newbury, as I eat hearty of Ham and Chicken. We supped about 12 o'clock in the Night. Paid at Newbury for the remaining fare and for Luggage to London 2. 4. 4. For Supper at Newbury p^d ab^t o. 5. 6. To the Coachman at Newbury gave o. 2. 0. We were put down in London at the Angel Inn at the back of St Clements and there we breakfasted,

dined, supped and slept. To the Coachman from Newbury gave o. 2. 0. We had no Guard whatever with our Coach. A Gentleman went with us from Hounslow to London, a very civil kind of a Man. I thank God that I was brave when I got to Town tho' rather tired and fatigued. Nancy very well. Poor Briton was very wet in the Night and was very much jaded riding in the outside. We made a very late Dinner ab^t 5 o'clock and had nothing for Supper but Tea.

Sep. 12, Saturday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Angel at the back of St Clements, as did Nancy. We walked about the City most of the Morn'. I called on Miss Pope by myself this Morn' at one Mr. Whites, Hatter, in Newgate Street. We went to the Lyceum and saw some very curious Wax Work, paid for seeing it o. 2. 0. It was just by the Exeter Change in the Strand. We also saw just by some very curious wild Beasts for which I paid o. 1. 0. Walked into Lombard Street and changed two of Gurneys Bank Notes of 10 P^d each for Cash.¹ Then went to the Black Bull in Bishopsgate Street and took 2 Places in the Norwich Expedition and one outside for Monday Afternoon. Paid in part to the Bookkeeper 1. 1. 0. To one Dozen of large Silver Table Spoons new and half a Dozen Silver Desert Spoons at a Shop in the Strand near Temple Bar p^d 10. 0. 0, which I look upon as a great Bargain. To a Pound of Sealing Wax also

¹ The particular Gurney—of that Norfolk Quaker family—who was at this date a great Norwich Banker was John Gurney (d. 1809), the father of a numerous family, among them the famous Elizabeth (1780–1845), who married Joseph Fry, Daniel Gurney (1791–1880), Banker and Antiquary, and Joseph John Gurney (1788–1847), Philanthropist and Author. John Gurney, the Banker, had leased Earlham from the Bacons in 1786: see Mr. Percy Lubbock's *Earlham*, *passim*, and the *D.N.B.*

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at another Shop near the above, 10 very large Sticks p^d 4. 6. To Fruit &c paid to day about 0. 1. 6. To 2 Volumes of Taylors Sermons just published in boards only paid 0. 10. 0. I was heartily tired before I got to bed by walking. To a Sermon on the Recovery of the King by Lancaster p^d 0. 1. 0.

Sep. 13, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at the Angel. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at the Angel. Miss Pope called on us this morning but did not stay very long. She and her Sister are to drink Tea with us in the Afternoon. Miss Pope and her Sister Sally came to us about 5 o'clock and they drank Coffee and Tea, supped and spent the Evening with us at our Inn. After Tea we all took a Walk in St James's Park upon the Mall and much crowded it was. We returned home to our Inn about 8 o'clock. We all walked thither, there and back again. Miss Pope and Sister left us about 10 o'clock.

Sep. 14, Monday. I breakfasted and spent the Morn' at the Angel. Nancy breakfasted and spent the Morn' at the Angel. Miss Sally Pope breakfasted and spent the chief part of the Day with us till we left London. Paid my Bill at the Angel, kept by Mrs. Watson about 2 o'clock, in all, for us only 2. 15. 0. For my Servant Briton, paid for him 0. 6. 9. Gave to Servants at the Inn 0. 9. 0. Gave to the Barber 0. 2. 6. About 2 o'clock we went with our Luggage and Miss Sally Pope with us in two Hackney Coaches to the Black Bull in Bishopsgate Street and there we eat some cold rost Beef drank some Bottle Cyder and stayed till 4 o'clock. For the two Coaches I paid 0. 4. 0. Paid for our eating &c at the Bull 0. 6. 0. A Mr. Gudgeon a young Man and Relation to Mr. White where Miss Pope lives and who pays his Addresses to Miss Pope called on us at

the Bull with Miss Popes Compts and sorry the Rain prevented her from waiting [on] us. We got into the Norwich Expedition Coach at 4 o'clock and went off for Norwich leaving Miss Sally Pope and Mr. Gudgeon at the Bull. Nancy and self had the whole Coach to ourselves. We did [not] stop any where on the road only had some Rum and Water and bread and Cheese at New-Market for which I paid o. o. 8.

Sep. 15, Tuesday. We breakfasted about 7 o'clock at the White Hart at Thetford, kept by one Clarke a very tolerable Inn, paid there o. 2. 10. We got to Norwich I thank God safe and well about 11 o'clock this Morning to the King's Head where we stayed about an Hour and then got into a Post Chaise and sat off for Weston Parsonage, where we arrived about 2 o'clock safe and hearty, blessed be God for it. We found all our People well and all things in very good Order and Harvest all in. Paid at the Office the remaining part of our fare to Norwich which with Luggage also came to 3. 6. o. To the Coachman gave o. 2. o. For Negus &c at Norwich and Chaise to Weston p^d o. 14. o. To the Waiter and Porter gave o. 1. o. To the Driver of the Norwich Chaise gave o. 2. o. We dined, supped and slept at the old Parsonage House.

Sep. 16, Wednesday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morn' to Norwich with a Letter to my Sister Pounsett. He returned before Dinner and brought us some Soals. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Aft. with us. Mr. and Mrs. Custance sent to enquire after us and likewise sent us a brace of Partridges. To Largesses to day gave o. 2. o. Mr. Du Quesnes insipid Servant James attended him.

Sep. 17, Thursday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mrs. Townshend and Mrs. Cornwallis, and Mr. Jeanes made

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us a Morn' Visit. Mr. Jeanes was gone before Mrs. Townshend came—We had a Levy Day at Weston Parsonage. To one Largess to day gave o. i. o.

Sep. 18, Friday. . . . My old Clerk J^s Smith lost his Wife in our Absence.

Sep. 19, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Jeanes made us a very short Morning Visit. To Largesses to day gave o. 2. o. Sent Briton on horseback this Morning to Norwich after Newspapers &c. he returned home to Dinner. Gave Nancy this Morning for well mending a Pair of Velveret Breeches for me o. i. o. Gave my two Maids a Cotton Gown apiece that I bought for them in London cost me 1. 8. o. Gave my Servant Man Ben a Waistcoat Piece o. 6. o. Gave my Servant Lad, John in Cash o. 2. 6.

Sep. 23, Wednesday. . . . Took a ride this morning to Mr. Du Quesnes, spent an Hour with him and returned home to dinner. Mr. Du Quesne bought a Coach Horse of Gillett 25 Guineas.

Sep. 25, Friday. . . . Very fine Weather indeed, and scarce ever known a more plentiful Harvest in Norfolk and elsewhere. Give us all O Lord grateful Hearts for the same. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day.

Sep. 26, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early to Norwich this morning after News &c. Nancy sent by him a long Letter to her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde. Mr. Priest called this morning upon us on his return home from Mr. Du Quesnes, but did not stay long. Ben returned by Dinner, brought some Herrings for us and also a Qualification for my sporting this year for which I am to pay 2 Guineas and 1 Shilling.

Sep. 28, Monday. . . . About half past 12 Mr. Du Quesne came here in his new one Horse Chaise and at 1 o'clock he took Nancy with him in it to Mr. Jeanes's

and I rode my Mare thither and there we all dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mrs. Jeanes, two of the Miss Lloyds and their Brother Rich^d Mr. Priest of Reepham and his Eldest Daughter. We had for Dinner some fried Eels, a piece of rost Beef, a Couple of boiled Rabbits and Onions, a Couple of Ducks rosted and a plumb Pudding. Mr. Du Quesne went home with Mr. and Miss Priest to Reepham before Coffee and Tea and there he sleeps. I returned home to Weston soon after Tea. I left Nancy at Mr. Jeanes's where she is to sleep. I went out this Morning for the first time this Season a Coursing, ran 2 brace of Hares and killed one brace of them, very good beginning. Returned home from Coursing by 12 o'clock. I was not right well when I got home this Evening. It was quite cold and I had no great Coat, very dull. I eat little Supper, smoaked my Pipe and got to bed pretty soon.

Octob. 1st, Thursday. . . . To my Servant Man Ben Leggatt for my Qualification Duty for killing Game p^d 2. 3. 0.¹ To Ditto for other odd Matters p^d 0. 9. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. To Briton for a Q^r of Tobacco p^d 0. 0. 8. To my Maid Betty Dade for things, p^d 0. 12. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mrs. Greene of Elsing and with her a Mrs. Lobb, an old Maiden Lady, a Mr. Chamberlain

¹ Until 1784 the Game Laws had simply aimed at protecting game as the sport of persons of a certain social status and the property of land-owners owning land of a certain annual value. Pitt determined to make public revenue out of the Game Laws, and in 1784-5 he made those qualified (i.e. roughly those with land of an annual value of £100 or more) register themselves and pay £2 2s. each year for a Game Licence if they wished to kill game. The duty was increased to £3 3s. in 1791, and in 1800 brought in some £73,000 in Great Britain (see Stephen Dowell's *History of Taxation, &c.*, vol. iii, pp. 236-48).

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who lives at S^r Will^m Jernegans and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us and we returned home in Mr. Du Quesnes Chaise about 9 o'clock this Evening. After Coffee and Tea we got to Loo. I lost o. 4. o. We had for Dinner to day, some stewed Tench, boiled Chicken and Piggs Face, a fine Haunch of Venison, some nice young Beans &c and Second Course, Pigeons, Pheasant, Patties, &c. Sir John Woodhouse gave Mr. Custance the Venison.

Octob. 3, Saturday. . . . Mr. Townshend made us a Morning Visit, my Niece was up Stairs at the time. He took a Couple of Nectarines home with him for his little Folks at Honingham Hall. Mr. Townshend promised me a fine Greyhound. He went from my House to Weston House. Mr. Cary brought my News &c from Norwich to day.

Oct. 5. . . . Gave Briton Leave to go and see his Friends at Reepham to day being Reepham Petty Sessions. About 1 o'clock Mr. Walker, with Mrs. Davy and her Daughter came to my House in a one Horse Chaise and they dined and spent the Aft. here, drank Tea at 5. and returned home soon after to Foulsham. A Servant Man came with them. We had for Dinner a Loin of Veal rosted, some hashed Hare and a Damson-Pye. Mr. Walker looked very unwell as did Betsy. Briton returned home about 8 this Evening.

Oct. 7, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Thorne made us a morning Visit. Very busy all the Morning in putting up a four Post Bedstead in the Garret over my Room, to be ready for our Somersett Friends this Winter. To John Greaves for altering the same p^d o. 5. o. To Ditto, a long Bill for the Cottages, 3. 13. 6. Killed a Pigg this Morning, weight 6 Stone and $\frac{1}{2}$. My Sow had 14 little Piggis.

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Oct. 9, Friday. . . . Sold Nancy the little Nestle tripe Pigg for o. o. 6. It was taken into House being almost dead. Brewed another Barrell of Table Beer. To 200 of Walnuts of Case p^d o. 1. 4.

Oct. 12, Monday. . . . To my Maid Betty Dade, for Check Furniture to a bed &c. brought home Saturday p^d 2. 8. 2. Mr. Custance sent us a fine Cock Pheasant.

Oct. 14, Wednesday. . . . Nancy breakfasted and spent most of the Morn' at home. About Noon she went in my little Cart and Briton with her to Mr. Jeanes's where she is to sleep. Briton returned home to dinner. N.B. Nancy was desired to go to Mr. Jeanes to meet Mr. and Mrs. Cambell and her Sister, who were to have come to them yesterday to spend a few days, but were not there when Briton came away but still expected. I took a little Rhubarb and ginger going to bed to night, being not right well. Nancy got to Witchingham without much Rain tho' it rained a good deal till about 12 o'clock. And then it held up for some time.

Oct. 15, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined &c again at home. It being a wet morning I did not send for Nancy to day, but must let her now stay till Saturday. Mr. Custance sent us a very fine Eel this Evening. A good deal better for the Rhubarb last Night.

Oct. 16, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c again at home. To a poor old man of Hockering by name Thomas Ram, having lost a Cow gave o. 2. 6. Brewed another Barrell of Table Beer to day. Sad News from France all anarchy and Confusion. The King, Queen and Royal Family confined at Paris. The Soldiers joined the People, many murdered.¹

¹ As before (see entry for July 24) it takes ten days for the news from France to reach Parson Woodforde. The events compendiously chroni-

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Oct. 17, Saturday. . . I sent Briton soon after breakfast to Witchingham with my little Cart after Nancy, and she returned home between 2 and 3 o'clock and she dined, supped and slept at home. Mr. Du Quesne called on me about 1 o'clock in his new one horse Carriage but did not get out.

Oct. 19, Monday. . . I had Mr. Hardy the Mason to work all day making the Wash-place better for the Maid.

Oct. 21, Wednesday. . . Had another Fat Pig killed this morning by Tom Thurston, weight 8 Stone 4 Pound. To my Servant Man, Ben for things p^d o. 15. 8½. To my Servant Man, Briton, for D^o p^d o. 10. 8. To my Servant Maid, Betty for D^o p^d o. 5. 10½. At 12 o'clock I drove Nancy out in my little Cart down to Morton, over Lenewade Common by Mr. Howletts and so home by dinner. We called at Mr. Howletts, saw him and his Wife and had some Chat with them, I called on him to borrow an Apple Mill.

closed in this entry for Oct. 16 had taken place on Oct. 5 and 6. These events were the result of a shortage of bread in Paris, the failure of Louis XVI to ratify the Declaration of the Rights of Man drawn up by the National Assembly on Aug. 26, and the not ill-founded suspicion that he was preparing to use force—the Flanders regiment having just been brought to Versailles. On Oct. 5 thousands of women and some men marched from Paris to Versailles where the National Assembly was sitting, and demanded bread. The king promised bread and they were quiet. As night drew on the disorderly elements in the mob became restive, but the situation was saved just in time by the arrival from Paris of Lafayette with 20,000 of the lately raised National Guard. An attempt on the part of some ruffians to assassinate the Queen in the middle of the night was frustrated after the murder of two of her guards. The King gave his assent to the Rights of Man, and placed himself unreservedly in the hands of Lafayette. Next day, Oct. 6, the Royal Family were brought to Paris, the women shouting 'We bring the baker, the baker's wife, and the baker's boy' (see Lord Acton's *Lectures on the French Revolution*, pp. 126-40).

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Oct. 22, Thursday. . . . Mr. Custance spent an Hour with us this Morning, and was extremely chatty. He was just come from Du Quesnes. Mr. Custance brought us a brace of Partridges.

Oct. 23, Friday. . . . To Joseph Palmer, Blacksmith, at Lenewade Bridge, for Work all the year p^d a Bill of 1. 4. 0. that is to say 1. 1. 10 for self and 2^s/2^d for Work done to the Widows Cottages. Paid my Niece A. M. Woodforde this morning the sum of 1. 1. 6 viz.—for a large square hair Trunk, bought in London September last 15^s/6^d. To Silver lent me 5^s/0^d and 1^s/0^d for an old Deal Box brought out of Somersett, with a new Lock to it, which I design to make use of for Mould Candles and Soap.

Oct. 24, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich with my little Cart after many things. Rec^d for 2 small Piggs of Tom Carr's Wife 12. 0. Briton returned from Norwich about 4 o'clock brought me a long and pleasing Letter from my Sister Pounsett, whom I thank God to find by her writing that she is better in health. She also informed us that my Brother John and Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke, intend setting out for Norfolk in about a fortnights time to spend the Winter with us. We shall be very happy to see them. Pray God! they may have a safe and pleasant journey.

Oct. 28, Wednesday. . . . My Greyhounds had a fine Course with a Hare this Morning by themselves and they killed her, and Carrs Wife brought her to me, her Husband happening to see the Course, and scarce ever a better Course seen before in Weston, gave the woman for her trouble o. 1. 0—Which she at first hesitated to take, but at last did. Mr. Du Quesne called here about 1 o'clock in his one Horse Chaise but

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did not stay long. Mr. Custance sent us a very fine Cock Pheasant.

Oct. 31, Saturday. . . . Very high Wind with much Rain in the Night but about 5 o'clock this Morn' it was highest, it shook the House, but thank God we received no damage. It was a very strong N. N. Easterly Wind. It blew down a great many apples and split a large weeping Willow in the Rasberry Garden.

Nov. 3, Tuesday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. and Mrs. Townshend and with them Mrs. Cornwallis, and Mr. Du Quesne and Miss Caroline Townshend. I paid Mr. Du Quesne to day for Pyle's Sermons in 4. Volumes to which I was a Subscriber o. 15. 0. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, Mr. Townshend, Mrs. Cornwallis, Mr. Custance and self at Quadrille. Mrs. Townshend, Mrs. Custance, Mr. Du Quesne and Nancy at Cribbage. I lost o. 1. 6. We did not get home till near 10 o'clock this Even'. We had for Dinner stewed Tench, Peas Soup, rost Beef, Mutton harricoed, Giblets &c Partridges, Hare, Cream-trifled, Tartlets &c. We went and returned in Mr. Custances Coach.

Nov. 4, Wednesday. . . . Sent Mr. Jeanes a nice roasting Pig this Morn' by my Servant Man Ben Leggatt. Gave to poor lame John Spraggs o. o. 2 and some cold Victuals.

Nov. 7, Saturday. . . . Very melancholy News on the Papers respecting the Ships wrecked and lives lost at Yarmouth and near it by the very high Wind early in the Morn' Saturday the 31. of October. May those poor Souls lost be O Lord better of. And send thy divine Comfort to all their Relatives. Mr. Custance sent us a brace of Partridges. Billy Bidewell brought our

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Newspapers from Norwich to day. We had no Letters whatever. We were in great expectation of hearing from Somersett, as we now daily expect my Brother and Wife, and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke, to be with us.

Nov. 9, Monday. . . . Busy most of the Morn' in cleaning my Gun.

Nov. 10, Tuesday. . . . To Mr. Aldridge for 7 y^{rds} of purple Cotton to make me a morning Gown at 2/0 per yrd p^d o. 14. 0. To Ditto for $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of Cambric at 10 0 p^d o. 5. 0. To Ditto for 1 yrd of different kinds of Cotton for patch-work for my Niece p^d o. 2. 10. Had 2 Gallons of Rum from Mr. Palmer of Morton this Evening for which I am to pay o. 16. 0.

Nov. 11, Wednesday. . . . To James Pegg this morning paid 11. 2. 3 that is, half a Years Land Tax 6. 0. 0, Half a Years House and Window Tax 2. 15. 0. Male-Servant Tax, for half a Year 1. 5. 0. Female ditto, for ditto o. 10. 0. Horse Tax, for ditto o. 10. 0. Additional Horse Tax, for 1 Quarter, o. 1. 3. Cart Tax, for Half a Year o. 1. 0.¹ Bottled of Mr. Palmers Rum this morning, it is strong, but nothing near so fine flavoured, as what we had last from Mr. Priest of Norwich. Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart, for many things from thence but more particularly for Letters as we are in daily expectation of seeing my Brother &c. Killed another fat Pigg this Morning, and the weight was 9 Stone and half. Briton returned home from Norwich about 4 o'clock this Afternoon, brought me a Letter from my Brother John, informing us of the Death of Mrs. James Clarke on Friday Sennight last, ' pray God she may have a happy change'. I sincerely pity the 2 infant Children that she has left, and likewise her dis-

¹ See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 208; also pp. 57-8, vol. i.

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consolate Husband poor Doctor Clarke I heartily pity him. My Brother also informed us that himself, Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke intend being at Norwich Friday.

Nov. 12, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich to order a Chaise to be sent to my House by 11 o'clock this morning to carry us to Norwich to meet our Somersett Friends there to Morrow. The Chaise came at the time appointed and between one and two this Aft. we went in it to Norwich thank God safe and well by 4. this Afternoon to the Kings Head, and there Nancy and self dined, supped and slept. My Servant Man Briton went with us.

Nov. 13, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at Norwich. Nancy breakfasted dined &c at Norwich. About 11 o'clock this Morn' our Somersett Friends my Brother and Wife and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke arrived at Norwich from London in the Expedition Coach after travelling all night. We were very happy to see them arrived safe thanks be to God for the same, considering their great fatigue they all looked very well, they breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head. Bought this day of Will^m Hart, Cabinet Maker on Hog Hill Norwich 2 large second hand double-flapped Mohogany Tables, also one second hand Mohogany dressing Table with Drawers, also one new Mohogany Washing-Stand, for all which paid 4. 14. 6. that is, for the 2 Tables 2. 12. 6. Dressing Table 1. 11. 6. Mohogany Wash-stand 0. 10. 6. I think the whole of it to be very cheap. To my Barber, Browne for a wig p^d 1. 1. 0. To a Quart Bottle of nice Mushrooms of Mrs. Nutter paid 0. 6. 0. To a Quart Bottle of Mushroom Catchup 0. 3. 6. To a Baskett for packing up the same 0. 0. 6. To 4 handsome Glass Salt-

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Cellars cut Glass at Cooks Glass Shop paid o. 16. o.
To 12 Patty Panns &c at Studwells p^d o. 2. 6. To 12
Yards of Diaper for Towells p^d o. 15. o. To 6 Yards
of Huckaback for D^o p^d o. 6. o.

Nov. 14, Saturday. We all breakfasted and spent the Morn' at Norwich. At about 2 o'clock my Brothers Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and Nancy got into one of the Kings Head Chaises, and my Brother and self into another, and sat of for Weston to which Place we got safe and well 'thank God' to the Parsonage House about 4 o'clock where we dined, supped and slept. The Drivers Baited themselves and Horses for an Hour and then returned back to Norwich. To the Drivers being very wet gave o. 4. o. To Fish this Morning at Norwich p^d o. 1. o. To half a Collar of Brawn this Morning of one Present in the Market-Place 21. P^d at 1^s/4^d per Pound paid 1. 8. o. To some second-hand Harness for my little Cart of one Chesnut in St. Giles's p^d 1. 15. 6. Called on both Mr. Priests, bespoke a Quarter of a Pipe of Port Wine and 4 Gallons of Rum of Mr. Priest Sen^r this Morning. Paid and gave at the Kings Head this Morning for 3 Chaises to Weston included 5. 10. 6. Saw Mr. Walker this morning at Norwich he looked very poorly, he is going to Mr. Broadbanks. My Brother and Wife slept in the Parlour Chamber, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy in the Attic Chamber over the Study, being lately much altered. I think my Brother is grown very fat of late.

Nov. 16, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined &c again here. I drove my Brother to Mr. Du Quesnes in my little Cart and we spent near two Hours with him. Mrs. Custance spent

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an Hour this Morn' with our Ladies. Mrs. Custance brought with her a very nice rosting Pig to Nancy. Mrs. Custance came whilst we were at Mr. Du Quesnes. Dr. Thorne spent near two Hours with our Ladies. We returned home just before the Dr^r went.

Nov. 17, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben very early this morning to Norwich with my great Cart and in it ten Coomb of Wheat. Sent a large Piece of my Collar of Brawn to Weston House this morning. I walked to Church this morning and my Brother with me, where I married John Lilystone and Elizabeth Peachman by Banns. My Brother was a Witness to the Marriage. Rec^d for marrying them only o. 2. 6 having received half a Crown before. Ben returned home about 5 o'clock with a Q^r of a Pipe of Port-Wine and 4 Gallons of Rum from Mr. Priests, also 2 large Mohogany Tables, a Mohogany Chest of Drawers and a wash-hand Stand, all which I bought at Norwich. Mr. Symonds cleaned my Spring Clock. He dined here.

Nov. 18, Wednesday. . . . My Brother and self busy great part of the Morn' in unpacking my Wine and putting it away.

Nov. 19, Thursday. . . . About 10 o'clock this morning my Brother and Self took a Walk to Mr. Townshends Plantations where we met Mr. and Mrs. Townshend and Mr. Du Quesne and we took the diversion of coursing all the Morn' and till near 4. in the Afternoon. Very fine Sport indeed we had, both my Greyhounds were there and they beat the whole field, I suppose there were 12 Greyhounds out and as many People on horseback to beat for us. My Greyhound Bitch, by name Patch, met with a sad accident towards the end of our Coursing in running after a Rabbit, by breaking a large Ligament in the off hind Leg in jump-

ing over some paling, we all thought at first that she had broken her thigh. We sent her home immediately, and Dr. Thorne who by chance happened to be there, said, on examination, that she might do well, and that we should bathe it with Vinegar and Brandy. Mr. Townshend was very much concerned at it. We got home about 4 o'clock, rather tired. My Brother complained of a Pain in his Stomach was afraid that it was a gouty Pain. He was rather better before he went to bed. Mr. Townshend gave us a hare.

Nov. 20, Friday. . . Rec^d to day for 2 small Piggs o. 16. o.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes made us a morning Visit. I asked them to dine with us but they would not, I asked them also to dine with us on Tuesday next to meet Mr. Du Quesne, but Mrs. Jeanes said it was inconvenient, tho' she had the assurance to invite us the Wednesday following without once offering to send their Carriage for the Ladies. We declined accepting the Invitation immediately.

Nov. 21, Saturday. . . Sent Ben early to Norwich with my great Cart with five Hampers and in them 15 Dozen of empty Bottles to Mr. Priests for the wine lately sent me. Ben did not return till near 5 o'clock this Afternoon. He brought me my Money for my Wheat lately sent to Bloome 13. o. o. My Brother sent a Letter by Ben to J^s Clarke. No Box from Somersett as was expected. My Brother took a Walk with me this Morn' to Weston House and there we spent about an Hour with Mrs. Custance and Lady Bacon. We did not see Mr. Custance being out. Coming from Weston House a Sailor accosted us and begged Charity, having lost every thing in the late Hurricane at Sea off Lynn. He came from Lynn and was going for Yarmouth to sail for Shields where he

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belongs, there were two more with him. I gave him
o. 2. 6.

Nov. 25, Wednesday. . . . We all dined, and spent the Afternoon at Weston House, with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Du Quesne called in his way to Weston House and took up Nancy with him. And my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and self went in Mr. Custances Coach, there and back. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, Quadrille and Loo. I lost at the Loo Table about o. 3. 6. It was near 10 o'clock before we returned home. We had for Dinner Peas Soup, a Saddle of Mutton rosted, Stewed Beef, Goose Giblets, a Couple of Chicken and a Piggs Face &c for the first Course. A fine Pheasant rosted, Hare rosted, collared Eel with a good deal of Pastry and Creams. I was exceeding ill all the day long, eat nothing but some Peas Soup and a small bit of Pheasant. I had little or no rest all last night owing to a Cold was very indifferent indeed on my return home to night.

Nov. 26, Thursday. . . . Was very bad indeed most part of the Night, my Stomach quite sore by coughing and profuse Sweats and when in one of those Sweats was obliged to jump out of bed to stand on the Stone-Hearth, being so violently attacked with the Cramp, twice so. Was very ill at dinner time, endeavoured to eat a small bit of a rosted Neck of Mutton, but could not swallow scarce one bit, before I was obliged to rise from the Table and go out to bring it up. In the Evening took a small Emetic, but that did not operate so well as I could wish, but was rather better after it, had some Mutton broth for supper which settled very well on my Stomach—Pray God I may have a tolerable good night of rest, as I had but a very indifferent one

the last. At 2 o'clock this Afternoon tho' so ill I walked to Church and buried one Mary Kemp a Widow, aged ab^t 50. My Greyhounds killed a Hare.

Nov. 27, Friday. . . . Mr. Custance very kindly called on me this Morn to enquire how I did, he did not stay long as he was going on to Mr. Townshends on a Visit. I thank God had a better night of rest than I have had the 3 last Nights. Had no Cramp at all. My Brother recommending me last Night to carry a small Piece of the roll Brimstone sewed up in a piece of very thin Linnen, to bed with me and if I felt any Symptom of the Cramp to hold it in my hand or put it near the affected part, which I did, as I apprehended at one time it was coming into one of my legs, and I felt no more advances of it. This I thought deserving of notice, even in so trifling a book as this is. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and Nancy went to Mr. Du Quesnes to dinner. Mr. Du Quesne sent his Chaise for the Ladies and my Brother went in my little pleasure Cart with Briton. I privately named a Child of John Reeves's this Afternoon at my House by name William. I was not well enough to go with my Company to day and therefore begged to be excused. They returned home to Weston Parsonage about 9 o'clock, very well pleased with their Jaunt. I had only a little mince-Veal for Dinner and eat but very little of that. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes were at Mr. Du Quesnes and dressed in high Style indeed as they told me. Mr. Priest of Reepham was also with them.

Nov. 29, [Sunday]. . . . I thank God that I am somewhat better, had a tolerable good night of rest. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church and christned 2 Children after Service. My Cough being rather troublesome was afraid that I

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should not be able to get thro', but I did and tolerably well. None from Weston House at Church, I mean, neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance. My Brother and Wife walked with me to Church. Immediately on my return home found a Note from Mr. Jeanes to invite us to Dinner on Tuesday next without offering his Chaise. I sent a verbal Message back by his Servant that we could not wait on him, it also being my Tithe Audit Day, which very likely they knew.

Decem. 1, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Rich^d Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Mrs. Custance called at our Gate this morning but did not come in--It being my Tithe Audit. Mr. Du Quesne also called on us this morning and stayed about $\frac{1}{2}$ an Hour with us. He is going to dine at Mr. Jeanes's and from thence to Mr. Priests. The following Farmers paid me for Tithe this Morning, and dined and stayed till after 12 at Night at my House. Stephen Andrews, J^s Pegg, John Rose, John Norton, Henry Case, Charles Hardy, Rob^t Rising, Jonas Silvey, John Buck, Tho^s Reynolds, John Girling, John Peachman, Will^m Howlett, Charles Cary, Rob^t Emeris, Will^m Bidewell, John Greaves, John Baker, J^s Pratt and John Heavers. We had for Dinner, some Salt Fish, a Couple of boiled Rabbitts and Onions, a boiled Leg of Mutton, boiled Beef and rost Beef and plumb Puddings. My Brother dined with us in the Parlour and the Ladies by themselves in the Study. There was drank, about half a Dozen Bottles of Port Wine, 8 Bottles of Rum, besides as much strong Beer, as they wished to have. I was far from well the whole Day, having a very bad Cold and a very troublesome Cough. Rec^d to day for Tithe about 245. 11. o. Paid John Buck a poors Rate

at 10^d in the Pound from Michlms 1788 to Lady Day 1789. I am rated at £30. 5s. od, therefore I paid him 1. 5. 2½. We were all very merry, and very harmonious. My Brother sung 2 or 3 Songs.

Decem. 4, Friday. . . . My Brother and Nancy went over to Mattishall this morning in my little Cart, they called at Mr. Bodhams, but they were gone to Brome on a very melancholy Occasion indeed, no less than on the Death of Mrs. Bodhams only Brother, Mr. Castres Donne, an old Friend of mine, who died on Wednesday last, Pray God he may be happy, and send thy heavenly Comfort to his distressed Relatives. I sincerely pity his Wife and Children. They called also on Mr. Thornes, there saw Mrs. Thorne and Daughter Hannah, also Mr. Walker and Betsy Davy. In their return called at Mr. D. Quesnes. They returned home by 3 o'clock. I was very poorly the whole Day long.

Decem. 5, Saturday. . . . Mr. Jeanes made us a morning Visit. I had, 'thanks be to God for it', a very good night of rest, and was much better this Morn'. Billy Bidewells Wife brought our Newspapers from Norwich to day, but there were no Letters. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 1. 6. Eat a pretty hearty dinner on Goose &c.

Decem. 7, Monday. . . . Mrs. Custance and her 2 Daughters with old Mrs. Collyer made us a long Morning Visit. My Brother and Mrs. Rich^d Clarke were just gone out in my little Cart before they came. I thank God that I had a tolerable good night. Paid Cobb, my Rat-Catcher, his Year being now up the sum of 1. 1. 0. And then told him that I had no longer any farther Occasion of him. About 4 o'clock this Afternoon we were alarmed by a Cart of Mr. Bucks being overturned near my House and the Driver being

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under the Cart and supposed to be almost killed, but he was only very much bruised and no Limbs broke.

Decem. 9, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne made us a Morning Visit and brought a Pheasant. A Mr. Girling of Dereham, Son of the late Justice, called at my House this Morning to desire me to bury a Sister of his next Monday in Weston Church. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 2. o. Thank God am much better than I was last Week.

Dec. 10, Thursday. . . . My Brother and Nancy went in my little Cart this morning to Mr. Jeanes's where they stayed about an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes, Mr. Jeanes at Norwich. About 12 o'clock I took a Walk with Mrs. Woodforde and Mrs. Clarke to Weston House, and just as we got there we met Mr. Custance, S^r John Wodehouse and a Mr. Chamberlaine of Cossey Hall, who all walked up the Hill to Weston House with us. Mrs. Custance was gone to Mrs. Greene's at Elsing. We stayed about an Hour and then returned home. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 1. o.

Dec. 13, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mrs. Collyer Sen^r at Church this Afternoon as were my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy. I had a large Congregation at Church this Afternoon. We did not dine till after Service ab^t 4 o'clock. Mrs. Woodforde had a Letter and a Parcel from Miss Pope of London. The Parcel was a Muff called the African Cloud, for Mrs. Custance.

Decem. 14, Monday. . . . Killed a Pig this Morning, weight 9 St. $\frac{1}{2}$. Between 11 and 12 o'clock I walked to Church and buried in the Church Miss Mary Girling of Dereham aged 29 Years. She was brought in a Hearse with 4 Horses, a Mourning Coach and Chaise

attending it. A great many People attended at the Funeral. I had a white silk Hatband, a p^r of Beaver Gloves and also my Fee for burying her 1. 1. 0. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 1. 0. and which Nancy owes me with much more. I was rather low the whole day long. Nancy rec^d a P^r of white Gloves for Miss Girling.

Decem. 15, Tuesday. . . . Paid my Butcher, Harry Baker, this Morning my Bill for Meat for the last Year 30. 10. 0. . . .

Decem. 16, Wednesday. . . . To my Malsters Son Thos Palmer Jun^r for his Father paid him a Bill for Malt &c of 20. 7. 6. . . .

Decem. 19, Saturday. . . . To Charles Cary my Shoemaker p^d a Bill of o. 15. 0. Sent Ben this Morning to Norwich after News. He returned by dinner time but no Letters. Mrs. Clarke was taken in an Hysteric Fit this Evening whilst we were at Cards, but soon got better, she continued but poorly afterwards she took some Rhubarb going to bed. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. 1. 0.

Dec. 20, Sunday. . . . Mrs. Clarke somewhat better this morning but still very poorly, her Constitution very tender. I read Prayers, Preached, churched a Woman and gave notice of a Sacrament on Christmas Day, this morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance with his eldest Son, and old Mrs. Collyer at Church this Morning. None of our Gentry at Church being dirty walking. Received for churching Mrs. Reeves o. o. 6.

Dec. 21, Monday. . . . Mrs. Clarke somewhat better this morning. This being St. Thomas Day I had a good deal of Company of the poor of the Parish, to each of whom I gave 6^d against Christmas. Gave in the whole to day 1. 7. 6. Mrs. Custance with Mrs. Collyer made

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us a long Morning Visit, and seemed quite agreeable.
At Quadrille this Evening won o. 1. 6.

Decem. 23, Wednesday. . . . My Brother took Mrs. Clarke out an Airing this Morning in my little Cart. Had a Note from Mr. Du Quesne this Evening with an Invitation to me and my Friends to a Xmas Dinner on Tuesday next at his House. I sent an Answer back that if he would send his Chaise and promise to dine with us the Wednesday following we would wait on him. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 3. 6.

Dec. 25, Friday, Xmas Day. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. here again. This being Christmas Day, My Brother and Wife and Mrs. Clarke walked with me to Weston Church where I read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the H. Sacrament, as were also my Brother and Wife and Mrs. Clarke. For an Offering at the Altar gave o. 2. 6. A remarkable fine mild Day for Xmas Day. The following old Men dined at my House being Christmas Day, old J^s Smith my Clerk, Thomas Cary, Thos^s Carr, Nath. Heavers, John Peachman and Christ. Dunnell. To each of whom I gave besides 1^s/o^d, o. 6. o. We had a large Sirloin of Beef roasted and plumb Puddings with mince Pies. Mr. Custance sent us this Evening a fore Q^r of London Lamb as fat as I ever saw Lamb.

Dec. 28, Monday . . . Rec^d of Edw^d Gooch this morning for Tithe o. 6. o. To one Will^m Mason of Sparham who goes about at Christmas playing on 10 Bells gave him o. 1. 6. To my Malsters Man James Barrett Xmas Gift o. 1. o. I walked to Church about 2 o'clock this afternoon and buried poor John Gooch who has left a Wife and several Children but most of them out.

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He was lately a near Neighbour of ours for some Y^{rs}. I thought that he had been older only 48 Y^{rs}. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. o. 6.

Dec. 29, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance with her 3 eldest Sons made us a morning Visit, but did not stay long as we were going to dine at Mr. Du Quesnes. Mr. Du Quesne sent his Chaise for the Ladies and about 1 o'clock Mrs. Woodforde, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy got into it, my Brother went with me in my little Cart and we all got to Du Quesnes about 2 o'clock and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham and their 2 Daughters Mary and Sally. We stayed till near 9 o'clock and then returned home as we went and got thither about 10. We had for Dinner to day some Codlings boiled, Peas Soup, a fine rost Turkey, a boiled Tongue, a Pheasant and a brace of Partridges, the Charter, Mince Pies, Tarts &c. We had 2 Tables at Cards one Whist the other Quadrille. I played at Whist and won o. o. 6. It was a very mild pleasant light evening. To John Hunts Son Tom riding behind the Chaise and opening Gates for us gave o. 1. o.

Decem. 31, Thursday. . . . I had but a very indifferent night of rest, not being well last Night, and also the Wind high. Sent Ben to Norwich this morning after some fish and other things, having Company to dinner to Morrow. Rec^d Yesterday in the Afternoon and omitted to be put down, of Mr. Herring of Ringland for Tithe 5. 5. o. Rec^d of him also for Tithe for Mr. Forster 35. 5. o. To my Chimny Sweepers Lad, Frank Holland o. 1. o. My Brother sat up with me this Evening to usher in the new Year and drink our Friends Health. The Ladies went to bed about 11 o'clock. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6.

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Ben returned from Norwich before Dinner and he brought a Letter from Nancy's Brother Samuel who is now at Florence.

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Jan^{ry} 1st, 1790. Anno Domini 1790. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. here again. To my blacksmiths Man, Jⁿ Spaule Sen^r gave o. 1. 0. Rec^d for 4 small Piggs of Clarke of Easton 1. 10. 6. Mr. Jeanes called on us this morning and informed us that his Wife was brought to bed Yesterday of another Daughter and that they are both as well as can be expected in so short a time. Mrs. Jeanes's Mother is now with them at Witchingham. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us, stayed till 8 with us and would have stayed longer but their eldest Daughter was very bad in the Scarlet Fever. We had for Dinner to day some Skaite and Oyster Sauce, Peas Soup, Ham and Chicken, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, a rost Turkey, fryed Rabbit, Brawn, Tarts, Mince Pies &c. Put into Mr. Custances Coach as they returned home a Q^r of the mild Cheese that Mr. Pounsett sent us. Mr. Custance liked it very much at dinner. We had 2 Tables at Cards this Evening, Whist and Quadrille. I played at the Whist Table and lost o. 2. 0. Mr. Du Quesne stayed about an Hour after Mr. and Mrs. Custance, and then we got to Loo. It was after 1 o'clock before I got to bed, my Brother being rather merry and very talkative.

Jan^{ry} 2, Saturday. . . . It was very near 11 before we finished breakfast. My Brother drove Mrs. Clarke out in my little Cart this morning on Sparham Heath.

Nancy was very pert and saucy at Dinner to day. About Tea time this Evening Nunn Davy from Yoxford in Suffolk called here in his road to his Mothers at Foulsham, and he drank Tea, supped and slept here, he came on a little Hobby. At Cards, Commerce, this Evening lost o. 1. o. Nancy won both Pools, 6^d each Person put in at a Pool. Miss Custance still very bad in the Scarlet Fever.

Jan. 6, Wednesday. . . . Paid my Servants their Years Wages this Morn'. To my Maid, Betty Dade, 5. 5. o. To my Man, Ben Leggatt 10. o. o. To my Man, Bretingham Scurl, 8. o. o. To my Boy, John Dalliday 2. 2. o. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. 1. o.

Jan^{ry} 8, Friday. . . . Nunn Davy called here this morning soon after breakfast in his road to Pulham but did not stay. Nancy with Mrs. Clark went over to Mr. Du Quesne's this morning in my little Cart and returned to Dinner. Mr. Walker came here about 1 o'clock in a Fakenham Chaise and he stayed and dined, supped and spent the Evening with us. About 10 o'clock this Evening he went in the same Chaise to Lenewade Bridge Inn to sleep. Mr. Walker looked very bad indeed and made us low. At Cards this Evening, Commerce, won o. 2. 6. It was after 12 o'clock before I got to bed to night.

Jan^{ry} 11, Monday. . . . Nancy behaved very pert to me after Dinner.

Jan^{ry} 13, Wednesday. . . . Was taken very ill [this] morning in bed about 4 o'clock with a violent pain in my Stomach, which I apprehend proceeded from gouty Wind there and likewise from Bile. I continued ill all the whole Day, could not eat any Dinner &c. In the Afternoon was taken with a vomiting, and afterwards was some matter easier. I took a small Dose of Rhu-

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barb and Ginger going to bed to night, as did my Brother also. Pray God ! I might be better to Morrow, as it adds to my Uneasiness to make my Somersett Friends not enjoy themselves as well as I could wish. My poor old Clerk, J^s Smith is very ill, he dined with our Folks in Kitchen to day but looks very bad. It was very wet this Evening but quite warm.

Jan^{ry} 14, Thursday. . . . Was I thank God ! some small matter better this morning, tho' but an indifferent night of rest. Mem. The Season so remarkably mild and warm that my Brother gathered this morning in my Garden some full blown Primroses. Took two small Doses of Camphor and Nitre. Mrs. Custance made us a Morning Visit. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. o. 6. To a poor Man of Saham Tony, having suffered by fire, by name Winer gave o. 2. 6.

Jan^{ry} 17, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. None from Weston House at Church nor any of my Gentry, being wet. Something better to day but Appetite very poor at dinner. At Supper however it was much better. James Smith, my Clerk dined with our folks to day. Poor James looks bad, but is better than he was.

Jan^{ry} 21, Thursday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their three eldest Sons, Hambleton, George and William drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon and played a Pool of Commerce, which Pool I won o. 5. o. They left us between 8 and 9 in the Evening.

Jan^{ry} 22, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us and stayed till near 9 o'clock this Evening here. After Coffee and Tea we got to Loo, won o. 3. 6. My Brother lost 11 or 12 Shillings by playing over bold and rather impatient withal. We had for Dinner to day a boiled Rabbit and Onions, a

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Leg of Mutton boiled and Caper Sauce, a Couple of very fine Ducks rosted, Mince Pies &c.

Jan^r 23, Saturday. . . . We all dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and little Family. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us at Weston-House. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after 4 of us—My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and self. Mr. Du Quesne took up Nancy in his Carriage, and we returned home as we went about 9 o'clock. After Coffee and Tea we all got to Cards. Mrs. Woodforde, Mr. Du Quesne, Nancy and self at Quadrille, and Mr. and Mrs. Custance, their 3 eldest Sons, Mrs. Clarke and my Brother at another Table at Commerce. I won at Quadrille at 2^d per fish o. 1. 6. Master Will^m Custance won the Pool at Commerce and it was highly pleasing to see him enjoy it. The Pool was seven Shillings. We had for Dinner Cod and Oyster Sauce, a Fillet of Veal rosted, Soup, a Chicken boiled and [Piggs] face, a Pheasant rosted, a wild Duck rosted Tarts &c. We spent a very agreeable Day indeed at Weston House.

Jan^r 26, Tuesday . . . I walked to Weston Church this morning and married William Clatheron and Rhoda Young by Banns, received for marrying them o. 2. 6. having had half a Crown before on publication. My Servants went out a Coursing this morning and they killed one Hare. At Quadrille this Evening won o. 1. 0.

Jan^r 27, Wednesday. . . . Much Rain during last Night, very dirty indeed. To one Thomas Carpenter, a broken kind of a Farmer and first Cousin to Mr. Peachman and who lives in Mr. Howlets House (late Forsters) gave him towards purchasing a Cow which Mr. Howlet as he told me, would give him liberty to

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keep, and who has also a Wife and three Children, o. 5. o. As soon as I gave him the above he asked to drink. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

Jan^ry 28, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, supped and slept again here. About 2 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Custance called here in their Coach and took up Mrs. Woodforde and Mrs. Clarke and went to Mr. Du Quesnes where they dined and spent the Afternoon. Mr. D. Quesne sent his Carriage after my Brother, self and Nancy and we also dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Du Quesnes with him and the above Company. We returned as we went about 9 o'clock this Even'. Mr. Custance shewed me a Letter when at Du Quesnes from Mr. Walkers Uncle of Woodstock to a Mr. Barker, Wine Merchant, at Norwich informing him that Mr. Walker was a profligate abandoned young Man, and to guard Barker from trusting him with any more Money or any one else, that he should allow him 30 P^d per Annum to keep him from starving provided he made a better Use of it than he has hitherto done, and if he did not, he should even withdraw that. Mr. Custance also told me that he had made use of his Name, S^r Thos Beau-champs and mine to get money raised for him at Norwich particularly the above Mr. Barker of whom he has had 300 P^d, besides many others. Among the others Hylett, Hostler at the Kings Head to whom he owes 50 P^d. Also Mr. Custance told me that Walker should say that he was coming over to my House for a few Days, was to be married to Betsy Davy very soon, that I was her Guardian and he was to have her fortune of me directly on the Marriage &c. I was astonished to hear such things, but not so much as I should other-

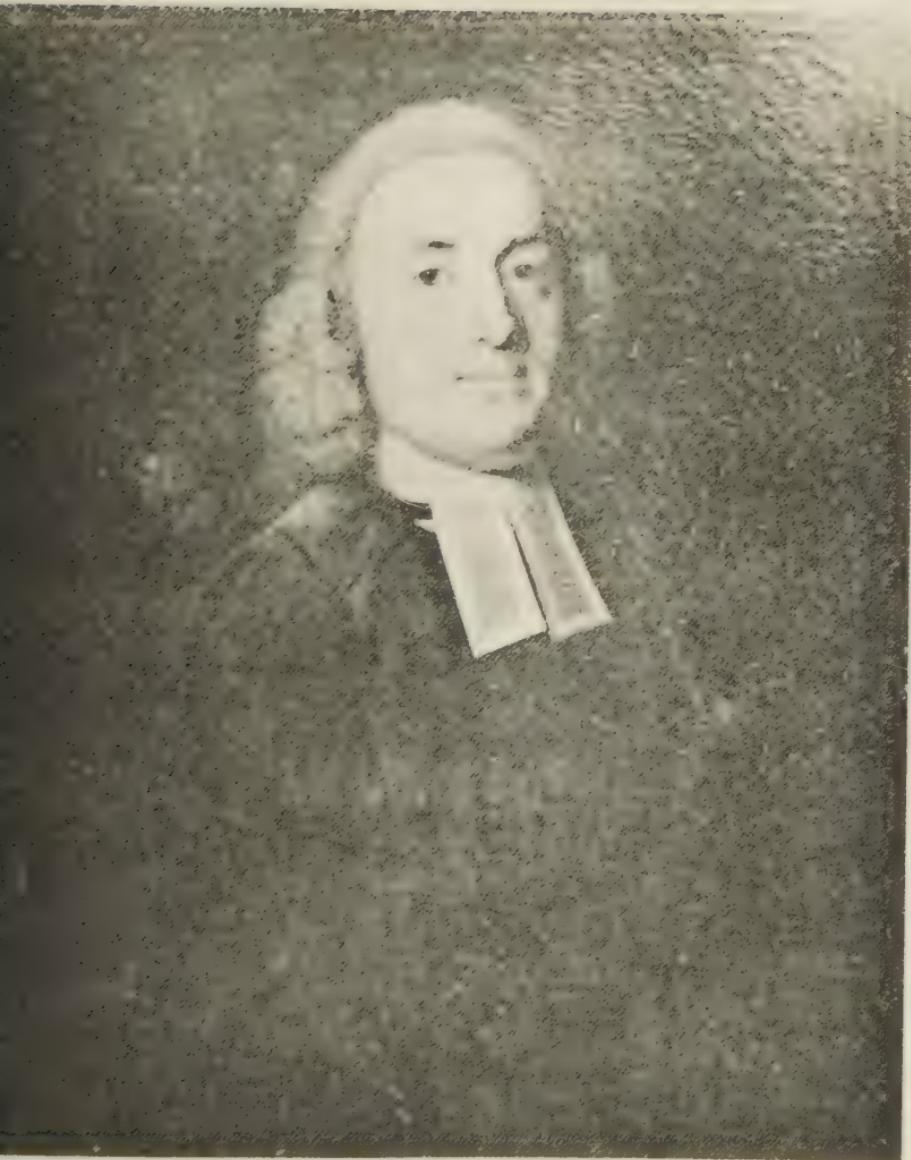
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wise, had I not been an eye-witness in some degree of his profligacy and extravagance. I have a long time given him up, his behaviour to me last Winter made me despise him utterly. Nancys encouraging him to come to my House after such behaviour has greatly lessened my esteem for her, as she shewed no regard for me. After Tea and Coffee we got to Cards won o. i. o. The Wind being very high about 12 o'clock I did not get to bed till after 2 o'clock in the Morn'.

Jan^{ry} 30, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich this morning after News &c, he returned by Dinner time. No Letters. Walker is talked of very much at Norwich, there are two Writs out against him, he is gone of but is supposed to be at Thetford at an Inn. Neither won or lost at Quadrille this Evening.

Jan^{ry} 31, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. None from Weston House at Church. None of my Gentry at Church being wet and dirty. I left my Sermon Book at Church this morning but I walked back after it immediately as I found it gone which was almost directly on my return home to the Parsonage House. I did not find it in the Church but at my Clerk's House he having carried it home.

Feb. 2, Tuesday. . . . Brewed a Barrel of small Beer to day. Walked to Church about 2 o'clock and buried an infant girl of Richmonds, aged only 16 Days. The family vault of the Thornes in Weston Church-Yard suddenly fell in a few days ago, and all buried. Will^m Hardy the Mason had not finished it but little better than half a Year. It must be badly done Or else the Arch would not have given away so soon. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost. Mrs. Woodforde played a Sans prendre Vole this Evening.



REV. THOMAS ROGER DU QUESNE
(1717-93)

after the portrait painted in 1750 by Helms

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Feb. 3, Wednesday. . . . My Cow Polly taken very bad in Calving this Even' obliged to send to Johnny Reeve who stayed till near 12 o'clock at Night. She had a Calf at last but very bad after. Had 2 Tubbs of Gin 5 Gallons each brought this Evening to my House. Mrs. Custance took our Ladies out an Airing this Morn'.

Feb. 4, Thursday. . . . My poor Cow very weak indeed not able to get up. My poor Greyhound Patch died in the Night in her Kennel, she had fresh strained herself a Day or two ago, and hurt herself so much that she could not stand at all and groaned very much. Mr. Du Quesne made us a long Morning Visit and brought over his Violin and played a good deal. Mr. Priest and Son, Robert of Reepham called also on us whilst Mr. Du Quesne was with us. Mr. Priest and Son returned with Mr. Du Quesne to spend the Day and night with him at Tuddenham. Dr. Thorne of Mattishall called on us whilst we were at dinner, had about half dined, and he sat down and eat very hearty of a rosted Pigg, drank Tea with us and left us a little before 8. Not a word mentioned concerning Walkers Situation.

Feb. 5, Friday. . . . My poor Cow rather better this morning, but not able to get up as yet, she having a Disorder which I never heard of before or any of our Somersett Friends. It is called Tail-shot, that is, a separation of some of the Joints of the Tail about a foot from the tip of the Tail, or rather a slipping of one Joint from another. It also makes all her Teeth quite loose in her head. The Cure, is to open that part of the Tail so slipt lengthways and put in an Onion boiled and some Salt, and bind it up with some coarse Tape. I took a Walk to Weston House this Morning and after chatting with Mrs. Custance, christened a Child of

Mrs. Alldis the Housekeeper by name Betty. My Brother complained a good deal to day of a pain in his Stomach, which he is afraid that it proceeds from something gouty there.

Feb. 6, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with ten Coomb, 2 Bushls of Barley, he returned by Dinner Time sold my Barley at 11^s/0^d per Coomb. No Letters from any of our Somersett Friends. Mr. Custance made us a long Visit this Morn'. My Brother was taken very ill indeed with the Gout in the Stomach directly after Dinner, was obliged to go to bed instantly after first bathing his feet in warm Water for a Quarter of an Hour, was a little better after it, but still in violent Pain. We were very uneasy on it. I did not go to bed till after 2 in the Morning—My Brother I hope something better. I would have sent for Dr. Thorne immediately after Dinner to day but my Brother would not let me.

Feb. 7, Sunday. . . . My Brother taken very ill again about 4 o'clock this morning, then Ben went immediately after Dr. Thorne, desiring Mr. Thorne to send something directly for the Gout in the Stomach which Ben brought back very soon. It was Æther, a Teaspoonful put into a Wine Glass of Water which gave almost instantaneous relief to my Brother and grew better directly after it. If it did not immediately give ease he was to take some every half Hour till it did. Dr. Thorne came here about 11 o'clock and stayed near a Couple of Hours with us. My Brother continued better all the Day after. I did not know that he had been taken ill at 4 o'clock this morning, not being up till 10. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, published Banns of one Couple and churched three Women. Mr. and Mrs.

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Custance at Church this Afternoon. My Brother eat a little bit of boiled Calfs Head for Dinner, but Potatoes was his chief food. He took another Dose of Æther on going to bed and then bathed his Feet again in warm Water. My Brother (thank God) much easier this Evening.

Feb. 8, Monday. . . . My Brother had a good night and perspired a good deal in the night and better this Morn'—Took a ride out in my little Cart with his Wife about noon, round by Ringland &c. I privately baptised a little Boy by name Garthon. The Child that I christened was a spurious Child of Eliz. Spincks by one Garthon an Auctioneer. I settled Accounts with Nancy this morning for the last Year, as follows, To Cash advanced at different Times the last Year, 6. 12. 6, To Cash advanced this Morning 3. 7. 6 which amounts in the whole to 10. 0. 0. As it was not much she had in ready Cash, I advanced her some more for this Year 1. 17. 6. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

Feb. 9, Tuesday. . . . About 1 o'clock 2 Post Chaises from the Kings-Head at Norwich came to my House by appointment to convey us to Norwich in the Afternoon. The Drivers and Horses had proper refreshment here. At 4 this Afternoon Mrs. Woodforde, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy went in one Chaise, my Brother and self went in another to Norwich, and my Servant Briton went on horseback with us. We got to Norwich (thank God) safe and well before 6 o'clock to the Kings Head, where we drank Coffee and Tea, supped and slept. My Brother not the worse for the Journey but better. In the Evening I walked to Rivetts the Book Keeper of the Norwich Theatre and took six Places in the Boxes for to Morrow Evening, paid 0. 18. 0.

Feb. 10, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head. After breakfast, whilst the Ladies were having their Heads dressed &c. I walked out into the City and paid the following Bills to my Tradesmen. To Mrs. Brewster paid 5. 17. 0. To Mr. Buckle, Ironmonger, p^d 1. 3. 6. To Mr. Forster, Attorney for Coll. Land p^d 16. 0. 0. To Mr. Bacon for Almanacks &c. p^d 0. 6. 9. To Mr. Rump, my Grocer, to send to my Shoemaker at Bungay, for Shoes &c. for self and Nancy p^d 3. 0. 0. To Mr. Francis, Attorney, for Paschalls &c. p^d 3. 2. 7½. To Mrs. Garland, my Taylor p^d 3. 9. 6. To Mr. Horth, my Upholsterer p^d 0. 3. 0. To Mr. Manning, my Brazier, p^d 2. 2. 0. To Mr. Priest, my Wine Merchant p^d 16. 15. 0. To Mr. Smith, my Mercer p^d 6. 15. 0. To Mr. Scott, my Glover p^d 1. 1. 0. Called on my Barber, Mr. Browne who now keeps the rampant horse in St. Stephens, and tried on a new Wigg which he had made for me, and it fitted me very well, paid there for it 1. 1. 0.¹ For a Glass of Rum and Water at his House p^d 0. 0. 3. To a new pair of Gloves at Scotts p^d 0. 2. 3. To my Fish-monger, Mr. Beale p^d a Bill 0. 8. 11. To my Barber, Franck, at the Kings Head, gave 0. 2. 0. Between 2 and 3 o'clock this Afternoon Mr. Du Quesne came to us at the Kings Head and he dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head with us. About 6 this Evening we all went in two Coaches to the Theatre and heard performed the Battle of Hexham, and the Entertainment was the Farm-House a very poor and very un-entertaining thing indeed. A pretty tolerable House but very few dressed Ladies. For the 2 Coaches there and back p^d 0. 6. 0. It made it rather late before we got to bed.

¹ See foot-note, p. 117, preceding.

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Feb. 11, Thursday. We breakfasted and spent the greatest part of the Day at Norwich. Mr. Du Quesne left Norwich about 1 o'clock. He breakfasted with us. To Mr. Bloome, my Coal Merchant, whom I sent to to pay a Bill, paid him this Morn' 15. 10. 0. For having 2 Razors ground and set p^d o. 0. 6. I took a Walk with my Brother this morning to one Gildarts a Cyder Merchant near the Maids Head in St. Simons, and there bespoke 2 Dozen Bottles of Cyder, all that they had, and paid for it there per Dozen at 8^s/o^d, o. 16. 0. For 2 Dozen Bottles and Hamper also p^d o. 7. 2. Mrs. Gildart behaved very civil to us, she is a Quaker. About 3 o'clock we left Norwich and returned to Weston in 2 Carriages from the Kings Head. To my Taylor, Forster, gave o. 1. 0. To Franck, my Barber at the Kings Head gave o. 1. 0. At the Kings Head paid 6. 12. 10. To Servants at the Kings Head gave o. 11. 6. We got home (thank God) safe and well by 5 o'clock this Evening, where we dined, supped and slept at Weston Parsonage. We were all rather fatigued and heavy. The Drivers and Horses had refreshment at my House. As I did not give the Drivers that carried us to Norwich any thing, I made it up and gave them o. 6. 0. At Mr. John Priests this Morn' for an Ounce of Rhubarb p^d o. 2. 6. For an Ounce Vial of Æther at Mr. John Priests also p^d o. 1. 0. To Watson the Deputy Post-Master my usual Christmas Gift of o. 2. 6.

Feb. 14, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church. Mrs. Woodforde, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy walked to Church this morning and attended Divine Service. My Brother did not go to Church being not well. It being a fine Afternoon we all took a Walk between dinner and Tea in Weston great Field.

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Feb. 15, Monday. . . . Yesterday being Valentine's Day and a Sunday the Children in my Parish came to me this Morn'. My Brother drove Nancy over to Mr. Bodhams at Mattishall this morning in my little Cart, called at Mr. Thornes and Mr. Du Quesnes and home to dinner. Gave to Valentines at 1^d each N° 55, o. 4. 7. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6. My Brother spoke highly in praise of Mr. and Mrs. Bodham. I was busy the whole morning in unpacking Wine and Cyder and bottling of Rum and Gin. It was a very fine pleasant Day to day.

Feb. 16, Tuesday. . . . About 12 o'clock, my Brother and Ladies walked with me to Weston House. We saw Mr. Custance but Mrs. Custance was very ill in the Tooth-Ache and kept her Room, was then in bed. We walked up the New Walk from John Bakers which Mr. Custance has lately made and put up a new Gate with a Lock to it of which Mr. Custance very genteely gave me a Key the other day. As we returned from Weston House we were caught in the Rain, but not very much of it. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6.

Feb. 17, Wednesday. . . . Nancy drove Mrs. Woodforde over to Mr. Jeanes's this morning and returned home to dinner. Mrs. Jeanes behaved with very much affection, talked exceeding high. Mr. Jeanes was gone to London &c. One of the Miss Lloyds was with Mrs. Jeanes and will remain there till Mr. Jeanes returns. I took a Walk with my Brother for about 2 Hours before dinner. We took a Greyhound with us. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6. My Maid Betty was taken very ill this Evening with the Wind Cholic. It vexed us all to see her so ill. I gave her some [Rum?] and Water, then a good Dose of Rhubarb and Ginger and Mutton Broth.

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Feb. 18, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Thorne and Miss Walker made us a long Morning Visit. The Doctor soon joined them. Betty somewhat better this morning. Rec'd a Letter Yesterday Evening by Mr. Custance's Servant from my Sister Pounsett, who is much better than she was, quite hearty, but that Mr. J^s Clarke has lately had a paralytic Stroke and lost the Use of one of his hands, is gone to Bath and his House at Ansford shut up. His Servants discharged also from his Service. Mrs. Woodforde had also a Letter from Mrs. Jⁿ Burge giving a very indifferent account of Mr. J^s Clarke. Brewed a Barrell of Table Beer. At Quadrille this Evening p^d o. 1. o. Anne Large came as Assistant for Betty to do her work was here all Day, breakfasted, dined &c. but not sleep.

Feb. 21, Sunday. . . . Had a Box brought me from Lenewade Bridge this morning by Mr. Cantrells Son, it came from Somersett from Robin Shoars of Ansford, its Contents were two Somersett Cheese alias Cheddar. Weight of the Box 1 Q^r of a Hndrd and 14 lb, paid for the Carriage &c from Ansford o. 6. o. Gave Mr. Cantrells Son besides o. 1. o. My Brother had given Robin Shoar an Order to send the same, if he could meet with some very good. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy all walked to Church being remarkably fine weather, Sunshine all the Day long almost.

Feb. 22, Monday. . . . I walked to Weston Church this morning and married John Baker Jun^r and Maria Younge by Banns, rec'd for it only o. 2. 6 having had 2^s/6^d before on publishing the Banns. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy were at Church to see

the Ceremony performed. This Day I think was as fine a Day as ever I remember to have seen in February. Mr. Custance sent us this Evening a large Bunch of Asparagus, very early indeed. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

Feb. 23, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance made us a Morning Visit. She is very near her time. Pray God ! grant her a happy minute whenever it arrives.

Feb. 24, Wednesday. . . . Had little or no sleep during the whole of last Night, being very much troubled with Bile. Was very low-spirited, eat no Meat the whole day and took a good dose of Rhubarb going to bed. To a run-about Man for a Groce of Corks p^d o. 2. 6. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

Feby 27, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart after News and many other things. He returned about 4 in the Afternoon. No Letters. I took a Walk with my Brother this Morning to Morton Hall, round by Attlebridge and so home. We were rather fatigued with our Walk. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6. Briton heard at Norwich to day that Mr. Walker was not in the Castle neither could he be found out. He also said that it was reported that he was near £1500 in debt.

Feb. 28, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church, and also churched a Woman. None from Weston House at Church, Mrs. Custance being in the Pains of Child-birth, 'Pray God Almighty befriend her and grant her a happy moment' is the sincere Wish and Prayers of not only myself but of all my Friends now at Weston Parsonage. Sent up this Evening to Weston House again and to our great Joy received the good News that Mrs. Cus-

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tance was safely brought to bed of a Boy and both as well as possibly could be wished.

March 3, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined &c again at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined &c here again. Nancy had a Letter by Mr. Cary from Mrs. Davy of Foulsham relating almost the same bad Actions that Walker had been guilty of &c. I wish now to break of every Connection with Mrs. Davy and all her long train of Acquaintance. I desired Nancy to drop her Acquaintance by all means, which if she does not (after their Characters are so well known) she will disoblige me as much as she possibly can do, and so &c. Mrs. Davy in her Letter desires her to look for a House to board at in her Neighbourhood as she intends leaving Foulsham very soon. N.B. I dont think Nancy has had a Letter from her before for the last twelvemonth. Nancy's Character (being too intimate with Miss Davy) is not talked of so well: as she used to go with Betsy Davy and Walker to Norwich &c by themselves. They all spent the Day and slept at Mrs. Davy's at Foulsham when Mrs. Davy was gone from home. Betsys Character is entirely ruined by her indiscreet ways, many times out by themselves, suffered herself to go for his Wife at public Places &c. Walker even boasts (as people say) of his behaviour to Betsy and says the worst of things of her. He now proves to be one of the most profligate, wicked, artful, ungrateful and deceiving Wretches I ever heard of, I never liked him. I believe both Mother Davy and Daughter also to be very cunning, close and not without much Art. I never wish to meet them again at my House none of the 3.

March 4, Thursday. . . At one o'clock took a Walk by myself to Weston House and there privately baptized

Mrs. Custances last little Boy by name Neville. Only three Days old this Day, a pretty Babe. This Evening just before Tea, a Clerk of Mr. Morphew Jun^r of Norwich brought me a letter from his Master, to acquaint me that my worthy Friend, Mr. Francis my Attorney was dead, died to day and to desire me to write to the Society of New-College in behalf of him concerning Coll. affairs in Norfolk, of which Mr. Francis had the care. Neither won or lost at all at Cards to Night.

March 8, Monday. . . . Mrs. Woodforde and Nancy went in my little Cart early this morning to Norwich and Briton went with them on my little grey Hobbey, and they returned home to Dinner by 3 o'clock. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. o. 6. N.B. Nancy played this Evening a Sans Prendre Vole.

March 13, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning with my little Cart to Norwich after News, Letters &c. Returned home about 4 o'clock this Afternoon and brought a Letter to my Brother from his Niece Jane Pounsett at Cole. All our Friends well. The Death of Mr. Seth Burge was also mentioned. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. o. 6.

Mar. 18, Thursday. . . . At Quadrille this Evening I think I lost o. o. 6. Rec^d three Letters this Evening from Weston House brought by Mr. Custances Servant from Norwich—2 from Caldecot now on the Oxford Circuit and one from a Mr. Stewart who has undertaken Mr. Francis's business for the benefit of the Widow and 6 Children, which I had no Idea of when I applied to my Friend Caldecot for Morphew Jun^r. I was very uneasy on it.

Mar. 19, Friday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. My Brother and Wife Mrs. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined &c here again. About 9 o'clock this

Morning I drove my Brother in my little Cart to Norwich being a very fine Morning and wanting much to go there to speak to Mrs. Francis concerning my application for Morphew to succeed her late Husband in College Affairs. We got to Norwich by 11 o'clock, put up the Cart at the Wool-Pocket in St. Giles, and then we walked directly on the Castle-Hill, where a Man by name John Beckitt was hanged for Murder about a Quarter before 12. We were close to him when he came out of his Cell, seemed indeed very penitential during the whole time. He was rather short but strongly built, black Hair, blue Sailors Jacket and dirty Trowsers. As soon as the Execution was over my Brother went to the Kings Head to have his Hair dressed &c and I walked to Morphew Juniors and to Mrs. Francis's, did not see the former but left my business with one of his Clerks. Saw the latter and sat with her about half an Hour, and settled all things very satisfactory to her and myself, concerning my application to Caldecot for Morphew Jun^r to succeed her late Husband, she was in very deep Mourning. Mr. Stewart is to transact business for Mrs. Francis until her 2nd Son is of Age to take it himself. For some Rum and Water at the Kings Head p^d o. 1. 0. For a Fade¹ made of Basket Work for brewing p^d o. 1. 3. For a small Basket with a Cover, p^d o. 1. 2. About 2 o'clock we sat of for Weston, and my Brother drove me back, we got home by 4 o'clock. We went to Norwich thro' Cossy and returned by Easton. It was quite warm as we returned home. Briton went with us upon Rodney. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6. To Mr. Bacon at

¹ I cannot find this word either in the *N.E.D.* or Wright's *Dialect Dictionary*.

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Norwich for 2 Volumes of Peerage 8/o. To Ditto for Book on Wills 3/o. To Ditto for Norwich Mem. Book 1/8. To Ditto for Court Calendar 2/o. Total 14. 8.

Mar. 20, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewell brought my News from Norwich to day. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. 1. 5. N.B. Only Crouse's Paper—Ipswich lost. Put some Cucumber Seed into my hot bed this Morn'.

Mar. 24, Wednesday. . . . Had a new Iron Weather-Cock brought home this Morning from Palmers, Blacksmith.

Mar. 26, Friday. . . . At Carys Shop for $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Tobacco p^d o. 1. 4. To a young Man that travels the Country on foot selling Wooden Clocks that go for 12 Hours, for one of them as I thought it ingenious paid o. 12. 0. The Man talked as if he was a Foreigner but very civil and obliging. I thought the price very small. At Quadrille this Evening, deficient, o. 2. 0.

April 1. . . . Rec^d of my Butcher, for Tallow, this Morn', o. 4. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 3. It was very cold indeed all the Day with a strong Easterly Wind. It cut through a Person.

April 2, Friday. . . . I read Prayers this morning at Weston Church being Good-Friday. Mr. Custance at Church. My Brother only walked to Church with me. It being exceeding cold and windy, the Ladies did not go to Church from my House. Gave my Clerk, J^s Smith, a good black striped Coat and Waist-coat, a pr of old Velveret Breeches and a powdered Wig, this Afternoon at my House, and likewise a Dinner of cold Meat. Had a Note from Mr. Du Quesne this morning with a present of a score fine Smelts brought with him from Ely, he returned home Yesterday. Gave the Boy that brought the Note

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o. o. 6. We had no Meat for Dinner to day, but only some Smelts, boiled Eggs, Fritters and toasted Cheese. I did not play at Quadrille this Evening being Good-Friday; but my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy did till after 8 to night.

April 4, Sunday, Easter-Day. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament at Weston Church this morning. Mr. Custance at Church and at the Sacrament, as were also my Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy. We had as usual for Dinner on Easter-Day a Loin of Veal rosted. For an Offering at the Altar this Morn' gave 2. 6. My Clerk James Smith dined with our Folks in Kitchen to day being Sacra-ment Sunday. James looked very well at Church with the Coat and Waistcoat &c I gave him Friday. Our Bishop of Norwich is translated to St. Asaph.¹

April 6, Tuesday. . . . When I got up this morning, perceived a violent pain in my right great Toe on my Foot about the middle Joint and swelled a great deal indeed could scarce get on my Slipper, and then could not keep him on long, but get into a pair of Shoes. I should think it must be the Gout. This is the first Attack I ever met with before now. One Woods belonging to this Parish with a Wife and Family now living at Dunham, called on me this Morning to ask some Charity, his House w^{ch} he rented at Dunham being burnt down last Thursday whilst he was out at work and all his goods burnt. I ordered Betty to give him for me o. 5. o. The Parish also has promised him 2 Guineas. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 5. I was rather better this night going to bed altho' late but still much pain in my great Toe.

April 7, Wednesday. . . . Had still much pain in my

¹ See foot-notes, pp. 92-3 and 222, vol. ii.

great Toe and is swelled. From Noon till bed-time my Toe was very painful. Rec'd for 2 Pints of Butter this Morn' o. 1. 7. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. He was in high Spirits, left us about 7 o'clock. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 10. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, an apple Pudding and cold rost Beef. I could not enjoy myself at all to day, in such pain. To Mr. Peachman half a Yrs. Poor Rate at $10\frac{1}{2}$ d in the Pound, 1. 6. $5\frac{3}{4}$.

April 8, Thursday. . . . Got up this morning very indifferent indeed, had very little rest all the Night, Cramp many times and in my lame foot, and Stomach also out of order. I was so ill in short in the night that I was alarmed. Mrs. Lombe and a Miss Greaver a Niece of hers made us a Morning Visit. They came just as we were going to Mattishall to Mr. Bodhams—Mr. Bodhams Carriage being come for the Ladies—They stayed about half an Hour. About 1 o'clock Mrs. W. Mrs. Clarke and Nancy got into Mr. Bodhams Carriage and sat of to Mattishall. My Brother went with me in my little Cart, he drove me. I was so ill that I was more fit to go to bed than to go out a visiting, but however as we all promised to go as this day to Mr. Bodhams to spend a day or two, I went as above, the Wind very rough and very cold, strong easterly Wind, very dry. We all dined, supped and slept at Mr. Bodhams. A Mr. Collison of Thornham, Mr. Smith of Brand a young Clergyman, and a Mr. Wright late of Downham who married Miss Bodham and now live on Badeley Moor where Broadbank lately lived, dined and spent the Afternoon with us at Mr. Bodhams. After Coffee and Tea this Evening we got to Cards 2 Tables—Quadrille and Whist. I played

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at Whist with Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Smith and Mr. Bodham and Mr. Wright. Mrs. Bodham, my Brother and Wife and Nancy played at Quadrille. I lost at Whist 2 Rubbers o. 3. 6. My foot this Evening going to bed was very painful indeed. I could scarce walk at all upon it. It was after 12 o'clock before we got to bed. We had for Dinner to day Cod-Fish and Shrimp Sauce, a fore Q^r of Lamb rosted, hashed Calf's Head, Pudding &c. We had for Supper some spring Chicken, boiled Eggs &c.

April 9, Friday. . . . About noon my Brother went with me in my little Cart for Weston Parsonage we got home to dinner. Soon after breakfast this morning I drove Nancy down in my little Cart to Mr. Wrights on Badeley Moor and spent half an Hour with Mrs. Wright, a Miss Brown, Mr. Collison and Mr. Wright. Called on our return to South-Green on Dr. Thorne stayed some little time with the Dr. and his Wife and my Brother. I thank God that I had a much better night of rest than I expected, slept almost all night and better this Morn'. We left the Ladies behind us at Mr. Bodhams they come home to Morrow to dinner. We had for Dinner to day at home a neck of Mutton rosted. After Tea this Evening my Brother and me got to Cribbage, at which neither won or lost anything. My foot much easier (thank God) this Evening.

April 10, Saturday. . . . I thank God, had a good night of rest, slept most part of the night. N.B. Took Rhubarb last night. My Brothers Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy arrived at Weston Parsonage between 1. and 2. o'clock, where they dined, supped and slept. They returned as they went in Mr. Bodhams Carriage. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with my great Cart in which were 2. Coomb of Wheat and six

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Coomb of Barly to be carried to Mr. Bloomes. Ben returned about 4. o'clock with $\frac{1}{2}$ Chldrn of Coal, sold my Wheat at 29/0, and Barly at 11/0, so that I received from Ben for both 5. 18. 0. Very strong cold Easterly Winds still prevail. At Quadrille this Evening lost o. i. i. Nancy had a Letter from her Brother William. My foot rather more painful this Evening.

April 14, Wednesday. . . . My foot somewhat easier this Morning thank God. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge called here and stayed with us full 2. Hours this morning. Mr. Du Quesne came here in his one horse Chaise about 2. o'clock and he dined and spent the Afternoon with us and was as young as ever he was. At Quadrille this Evening won o. i. 2. Mr. Custances Sister, Miss Custance lately returned from Italy, came to Weston House Yesterday.

April 17, Saturday. . . . My foot near the same as Yesterday. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after Fish &c. having Company to dine with me to day. I sent a Letter by him to Thos Caldecot Esq. Essex Street, Strand, London—My Brother sent one also to his Niece Pounsett and another to his Tenant at Evercreech. Mr. and Mrs. Custance, with Mr. Custances Sister Miss Custance lately arrived from Italy made us a Morning visit and stayed about half an Hour. Ben returned home about 1. o'clock. Miss Custance is not handsome but seems very agreeable and about 30. Years of Age. Soon after they were gone Mr. and Mrs. Bodham arrived, and they stayed and dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner some Codlings and fryed Eels, a boiled Neck of Veal and Pigs Face, a piece of rost Beef and Tarts. They left us about 7. o'clock in the Evening. At Quadrille this Evening won o. i. 10.

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April 21, Wednesday. . . . My Brother complained a little of the Gout to day, flying about him, he eats however hearty.

April 23, Friday. . . . Mrs. Custance with Miss Custance called at our great Gates this morning in their Coach but did not come into the Yard. I went and spoke to them only. They sent us a Cucumber by their Servant. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Aft. with us, and stayed at Weston Parsonage till 8. o'clock. Rec'd a Note this Evening from Mr. Custance to invite us and Mr. Du Quesne to dinner on Tuesday Wednesday or Thursday next. I sent an Answer back that we would all wait on them on Wednesday. After tea we got to Loo this Evening at which at only 6^d per dozen won o. 3. 6. Saw the first Swallow this Morn. for this Season.

April 26, Monday. . . . A very fine pleasant spring Day and warm. I tryed to leave off my great Shoe in the middle of the Day, but put it on again in the Evening. I was not quite so well as I could wish this Evening took a small dose of Rhubarb going to bed. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

April 27, Tuesday. . . . Rec'd a Note this Morning from Dr. Thorne informing me of the death of his Nephew Walker, and that he should be glad to have him buried at Weston on Thursday next. I returned an answer to it.

April 28, Wednesday. . . . My Brother rather uneasy on Account of one of his Legs pitting about the Ankle, thinks that it is something dropsical, but I think it is owing to want of more exercise, he being grown of late very fat and use little or no Exercise. Rec'd for a Pint of Butter of Mr. Cary o. o. 9. We all dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston-House with Mr. and Mrs.

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Custance, Miss S. Custance and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us and we were brought back in the same that is, My Brother and Wife, Mrs. Clarke and self were in the Coach, and Mr. Du Quesne took up Nancy in his Carriage, as he called at our house. We had for Dinner, a fine Piece of Cod-Fish with Oyster Sauce, a large Piece of boiled Beef, hashed Calfs Head, Neck of Mutton harricoed, a very nice rost Pig, and a rice Pudding boiled. We returned home about 9. in the Evening. At Quadrille with Mrs. Woodforde, Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Du Quesne, only one Table, lost o. i. o. Mrs. Woodforde, in stepping up into the Coach on going to Weston House, trode on her Muslin Coat and rent it very much, very vexing indeed.

April 29, Thursday. . . . Between 1. and 2. o'clock this Afternoon walked to Weston Church and buried Mr. Thorne's Nephew Robert George Walker, aged 23 Years. He was brought in a Hearse with 4 Horses, but from whence I know not. Dr. Thorne was present, and a young Man Son of Mr. Thorne of Kimberly, and a short Man (at whose house) Walker was at, were all that attended. My Brother walked with me to Weston Church. I had a black silk Hatband and a pair of Beaver Gloves. And the Dr. also gave me i. i. o. There was not the least Description on the Coffin or any kind of Ornament, quite plain and uncoloured. At Quadrille this Evening won o. i. o.

May 1, Saturday. . . . My Brother rather uneasy this Evening on Account of his Legs swelling about the Ancles and pitting, I do not however think that it is dropsical, but proceeds from some gouty matter in the Constitution.

May 2, Sunday. . . . My Brother went over this morning

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to Mr. Thornes for his advice respecting his Legs, in my little Cart, he returned home to dinner. I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. No Gentry from Weston House at Church, nor any of my Friends at my House.

May 3, Monday. . . . My Brothers Legs somewhat easier and less swelled. Mrs. Custance with 3. of her little Folk made us a morning Visit, stayed about an hour. Launched my Ship for the first time this Year. . . . To a Person with a Petition for Loss of Stock o. 2. 6.

May 4, Tuesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Forster of Lenewade Bridge called on us this morning. They came to talk with me about the behaviour they have lately received from Mr. Jeanes since Mr. Forster has purchased the College Estate at Witchingham of the Le Neve's. That Mr. Jeanes behaved very strangely to him and his Wife on Sunday last at Church and after Mr. Jeanes in such a violent Passion with Mr. Forster. About 1. o'clock took a walk by myself to Weston House and chatted an Hour with Mrs. Custance and Miss Custance.

May 6, Thursday. . . . To 18. Yards of black Ribband of [Bagshaw] pd. o. 5. o. Gave my Brother half my black Ribband. The Ribband is designed to put round our Necks to prevent sore throats.

May 8, Saturday. . . . Not quite so well to day, had very little if any sleep all last Night. Gout flying about me I think. At 8. o'clock this Morning I drove my Brother to Norwich in my little Cart, to bespeak places in the Yarmouth Coach for Monday next, as we purpose going thither next Week, got to Norwich by 10. The Weather tolerably fair but air cool. Took 6. Places in the Yarmouth Coach for Monday Afternoon next, for which I paid 1. 4. o. The Coach goes

from the black Horse on Tombland at 3. o'clock in the Afternoon on Monday next. To some Eels at Norwich at 3½ per P^d p^d o. 1. 6. To a Pound of double-proof Gunpowder pd. o. 2. 2. Bespoke 2. Chaises from the Kings-head for Monday morning to be at my House by 11 o'clock. At the Kings Head for a little refreshment pd. o. 1. 3. We returned home to Dinner by 3. o'clock. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We found him at Weston Parsonage on our return. My Brother drove back from Norwich went thro' Cossey. A War with Spain much talked of at Norwich.¹ At Cards, Loo, this Evening lost about o. o. 6. Mrs. Woodforde and Sister rather warm with me this Evening at Cards.

May 10, Monday. . . . Between 12. and 1. o'clock we all sat of for Norwich in two of the Kings Head Chaises. Got to Norwich about 2. o'clock, partook of a cold Collation at the Kings Head and at 3 got into one of the Yarmouth Coaches and of for Yarmouth and about 7. in the Evening (thank God) got safe thither to the Angel Inn in the Market Place, kept by a Mr. and Mrs. Dark. At Norwich I paid and gave abt. o. 5. o. To the Yarmouth Coachman gave o. 3. o. At Accle for Rum and Water pd. o. o. 6. My Brother and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke, very highly pleased with Yarmouth and the Sea View. We supped and slept at the

¹ Nootka Sound in Vancouver Island was claimed by Spain on the ground that the whole Pacific coast was hers by right of discovery as far north as Alaska, and she asserted this claim against British settlers in Nootka Sound. Pitt resolutely opposed this claim and made ready a great armament in the event of war. Spain's ally France refused to support her, and Pitt was peacefully triumphant. But the armament was expensive, and among other taxes Pitt increased the Game Licence duties in 1791. See note on p. 144, preceding. Also Mr. G. M. Trevelyan's *History of the Nineteenth Century, 1782-1901*, pp. 43 and 178.

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Angel at Yarmouth. My Servant Briton I took with us.

May 11, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Angel at Yarmouth, as did my Brother and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy. Directly as we had breakfasted, we all went in three Yarmouth Coaches down to the Fort all by the side of the Sea. The Sea rather rough the Wind being high and very cold we found it. It was a high North Easterly Wind. We were however highly pleased with the View. At the Fort we had some bread and Porter, nothing better being to be had. I paid and gave 1. 0. We went and saw also Yarmouth great Church. Gave the Clerk by name Pitt (whose Father had formerly been Mayor of Yarmouth) 0. 2. 6. As we returned from the Fort we came over the Quay, one of the best in the World. The Ladies were much taken with the Quay. I walked with my Brother in the Afternoon to the Wrestlers Inn, and took the whole Norwich Coach for Thursday Afternoon next, pd. for the same, 1. 4. 0.

May 12, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at the Angel Inn at Yarmouth, as did likewise My Brother and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy. As soon as we had breakfasted we got into the Yarmouth Coaches again and took a ride on the Beach, called at a public House on the Coast and had some refreshment, and returned home about 2 o'clock to our Inn to dinner. Paid and gave the public House on the Beach 0. 2. 0. In the Evening I called on Lady Bacon who is in Lodgings near the New-Chapel Yarmouth. I stayed with her about half an Hour. To a small Box Compass pd. 0. 1. 0. To a small Book with some Poems of Goldsmith 0. 0. 9. At a Pot-House on the Quay with my Brother amongst some jolly Tars,

for Porter o. o. 4. For some Cakes at a Confectioners pd. o. 1. o. At a Hospital for old Sailors gave o. 1. o.

May 13, Thursday. I breakfasted and dined at the Angel Inn at Yarmouth, as did also my Brother and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy. After breakfast I walked out with the Ladies to see the New-Chapel and to attend divine Service there this Morning being Holy-Thursday, but when we got thither, there was no Duty at the Chapel, however the Clerk shewed us over the Chapel. I gave to the Clerk for shewing it o. 1. o. We then walked down to the Quay and called at a Mr. Ramey's to see some very curious drawings of Mrs. Rameys, done by a red hot Poker on Box. They were very curious indeed and highly finished. To the Servant Man that shewed it us gave o. 1. o. We then returned to our Inn and dined on some cold Meat and Sallad and some Tarts. My Brother did not go with us, but went out by himself and did not return till we had almost dined ; he had been out with some Tars and had been drinking with them and was a little merry. To the Barber this Morning gave o. 2. 6. For 3. Yarmouth Coaches for 2. Mornings pd o. 12. o. To the Servant men that attended gave o. 1. o. After Dinner I went into the Bar and paid Mrs. Dark her Bill. Our fare at the Angel 5. 12. 10. To Servants at the Angel, gave abt. o. 12. o. At 3. o'clock this Afternoon the Norwich Coach came to the Angel Inn after us, Into which we soon got and sat of for Norwich, stayed a very little time at Acle just to change Horses and then of for Norwich, to which place I thank God we got safe and well by 7. in the Evening, where we supped and slept at the Kings Head.

May 14, Friday. I breakfasted, dined and spent part of the Afternoon at Norwich, at the King's Head, as

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did also my Brother and his Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy. At Studwells China Shop, paid a Bill of o. 18. 6. At Beale's, Fishmonger, paid a Bill of o. 6. o. To a Cheese-Spitter with an Ivory handle pd. o. 2. 6. To Wash-balls at Nosworthys paid o. 2. o. To a small Pewter-Funnell at Do. pd. o. o. 3. I called at Mr. Priests Senr. and bespoke some Rum and 2 Dozen of old Mountain. At 5. o'clock this Afternoon we got into two of the King's Head Chaises and sat of for Weston Parsonage, to which place we got safe and well (thanks be to God) about 7. in the Evening. I paid at the King's Head for Chaises &c. 4. 11. 5. To Servants at the King's Head, gave o. 10. o. To the Drivers of the Norwich Chaises gave o. 3. o.

May 19, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Love the Painter dined with our Folks to day in Kitchen, he being painting my Weather-cock.

May 20, Thursday. . . . The Weather-cock finished gilding to day.

May 22, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich on horseback after News and Letters &c. He returned home to Dinner, brought a Letter for my Brother from my niece Pounsett with Notes in it. I had a very indifferent Night of Sleep last Night, and was very ill all the Morning with a pain in my Stomach. Was better thank God ! after Dinner by drinking freely of old generous Port Wine, something gouty abt. me. At Quadrille this Evening, won, o. o. 10. Briton brought home some Maccarel to day, the first we have had this Season in our House.

May 24, Monday. . . . Gave my Clerk (J. Smith) who dined with our Folks in Kitchen Yesterday, being Whit-Sunday, for cleaning the Church-Yard Walks, o. 1. o. My Brother sent an Answer to Jenny

Pounsetts Letter. Smock-racing at the Heart this Aft. being Whit-Monday. At Quadrille this Evening, lost o. o. 3.

May 25, Tuesday. . . . The Purse-Club,¹ about 20. in Number, came to my House this Morning with Cockades in their Hats, and asked me to give them something, which, as they very lately lost something very considerable from their Treasurer (one Fremault) being a Bankrupt, I gave to them the Sum of o. 10. 6. Mr. Custance gave them one Guinea. I privately named a Child this Afternoon, at my House of John Baker Junr. by name, Sarah. At Quadrille this Evening, won o. 1. 9.

May 26, Wednesday. . . . Memorandum. Had the Weather-Cock erected in my Garden this Morning, and a very good effect it has there, looks very well indeed and handsome. The Pole painted a dark-green, and the Weather-cock black and gold. It is put in the middle of the first Clump of Firs on the right hand from the front Door of the House. To John Greaves, Carpenter, for work, pd. 1. 0. 1½. At Quadrille this Evening, won abt. o. 1. 6.

May 28, Friday. . . . To 8. Pints of Gooseberries of Sarah Dunnell o. 1. 4. Recd. for 1. Stone of Tallow

¹ The earliest Act for the encouragement of Friendly Societies (e. g. by exemption from taxation) was passed in 1793, and probably the Weston Village Purse Club was an example of the kind of society which was then most common, i. e. 'small clubs, in which the feature of good fellowship was in the ascendant, and that of provident assurance for sickness and death merely accessory.' The temporary catastrophe to the finances of the Weston Purse Club illustrates the need for the regulation and protection of Friendly Societies which has been provided by successive Acts passed in 1819, 1829, 1846, 1875, and 1895. The Registrar of Friendly Societies dates as such from 1846, but a barrister to examine rules had been appointed in 1829. (See the article on Friendly Societies in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.)

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of my Butcher o. 4. o. We all dined at Mr. Du Quesnes to day abt. half past 3. Mr. Du Quesne sent his Chaise after some of us, in which went My Brother and Nancy ; my Brothers Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Myself went with Mr. Custance in his Coach, Mrs. Custance not going, being rather ill. We returned home as we went to Mr. Du Quesnes. We had for Dinner some boiled Maccarel, Ham and Chicken, a Saddle of Mutton rosted, Pigeons and Asparagus, the Charter, Cheesecakes, Tarts &c. After Coffee and Tea we got to Pope-Joan. We spent a very agreeable cheerful Day.

May 31, Monday. . . . I drove my Brother to Norwich in my little Cart this morning, got thither by 10. in the Morning, stayed till 1. o'clock and returned home to dinner. My Brother took 3. Places in the Expedition Coach for London, on Friday next, sets of at 3. in the Aft. To 9. very fine and fresh Maccarel at Norwich pd. o. 1. 6. To 1. Doz. sweet Oranges pd. o. 1. 6. To 1. lb Muscat. Raisins pd. o. 1. 0. To $\frac{1}{2}$. lb. Jordan Almonds pd. o. 1. 0. To a small Padlock for a dressing Box pd. o. o. 4. To Gingerbread Nuts pd. o. o. 6. Mrs. Woodforde, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy drank Tea at Weston House this Afternoon—returned abt. 8. o'clock. Mrs. Custance sent us 3. fine Maccarel this Morning. Took a Walk this Evening with my Brother to Mr. Peachmans—but no one at home, then walked to Mr. Bucks and drank some mild Beer with him and his Wife.

June 1, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a morning Visit to take leave of our Somersett Friends, who go Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham and with them Mrs. Dade of Yarmouth and Daughter, Mr. Wright and Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon

with us. We had for Dinner some fine Maccarel, Ham and 4. boiled Chicken, a Leg of Mutton rosted, a Green-Goose and Asparagus, Pies and Tarts. Desert, sweet Oranges, Almonds and Raisins, Sherry, Mountain and Port Wines. After Coffee and Tea we had 2. Card Tables, one of Whist and the other Quadrille—I sat out. Our Company &c. left us between 8. and 9. o'clock. Mrs. Clarke very indifferent with a swelled Face. My Brother and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke took some Rhubarb going to bed to night by my desire as they are going to take a long Journey.

June 2, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Clarke very indifferent indeed, breakfasted in bed. Mrs. Custance made us a short morning Visit and took leave of our Somersett Friends. Mrs. Clarke rather worse this Afternoon—her Disorder is the Mumps or swelling of the Chaps. She could eat no Solids only spoon-victuals all day. I took a Walk this Evening with my Brother to Mr. Howletts and Mr. Girlings, but none were at home, so the Compliments are paid.

June 3, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, and spent part of the Aft. at home. My Brother and Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy breakfasted, dined, and spent part of the Aft. here. Mrs. Clarke still poorly but rather better than Yesterday. Paid Briton for things o. 9. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paid Betty for ditto 1. 1. 0 out of which she owes me o. o. 8. Two of the Kings-Head Chaises came to my House this Afternoon according to order, and at 5. o'clock we all sat of for Norwich—My Brothers Wife, Mrs. Clarke and Nancy in one Chaise, and my Brother and self in the other, we got to Norwich by Tea-time to the Kings Head where we all drank Tea, supped and slept. Gave to my Brother this Evening my Silver Cork-Screw with a five Guinea Norwich Bank



JOHN WOODFORDE

'Brother John' as a
young man

Note wrapped round it — ‘Pignus Amicitiae’ — St. Peter’s very musical Bells rung this Evening which highly pleased our Somersett Friends as they never heard them before. We were all rather low at our leaving Weston Parsonage this Afternoon. Our Somersett Friends go off for the West to Morrow Aft. 3 o’clock.

June 4, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at Norwich. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. &c. at Norwich. My Brother and Wife, and Mrs. Clarke, breakfasted and dined with us at the Kings Head, and at 3. o’clock, this Afternoon, after taking leave of us, they went off for London in the Expedition Coach, from the Kings Head—a double-Coach. Mrs. Clarke but very indifferent with a swelled Face. It being the Kings Birthday St. Peters Bells rang most part of the Day and at 1. o’clock Lord Heathfields¹ Light Horse were drawn up in the Market Place and fired 3. Vollies in honour of the Day. We also saw St. Andrews Hall and likewise the Mayor and Aldermen go from thence full dressed to the great Church to Prayers and a Sermon this Morning about 11. I gave to a Man at St. Andrews Hall o. 1. o. Shewed the Ladies also Bunns Rural Gardens and the Iron-

¹ Lord Heathfield (whose portrait in the National Gallery every one remembers) was George Augustus Elliot (1717–90), the famous defender of Gibraltar through the siege which lasted from July 1779 to Feb. 1783. He raised his Light Horse in 1759 during the Seven Years’ War. Horace Walpole in a letter to Sir H. Mann, Jan. 18, 1764, tells an anecdote in which one of the Light Horse figures : ‘As he [Charles William Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick] went next morning to St. James’s, he spied in the crowd one of Elliot’s Light Horse and kissed his hand to the man. “What !” said the populace, “does he know you ?” “Yes,” replied the man ; “he once led me into a scrape, which nothing but himself could have brought me out of again.”’ Walpole’s *Letters* (Paget Toynbee ed.), vol. v, p. 434.

Foundry this Morning. At parting we were all very low on the Occasion. Pray God send them a safe Journey into the West. Nancy and self took a Walk in the Evening to Mr. Priests Senr. and there drank Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Priest and their Son John. Soon after Tea a Dr. Hooke and one Mr. Taylor joined us, and I played one Rubber at Whist with Mr. Priest Senr. Dr. Hooke and Mr. Taylor, I lost o. 1. 6. At 7. o'clock I took Nancy with me in one of the Hackney Coaches down to Bunns Gardens to hear a Concert and see some Fireworks. We stayed there till near 11. o'clock—the Concert was midling, the Fireworks very good. Paid at the Gardens for 2. Tickets o. 2. 0. We returned as we went and in the same Coach. Paid the Coachman there and back, o. 3. 0. There was very little genteel Company there, but as Nancy never saw any publick Gardens before, she was well pleased with the sight. Lord Orfords¹ droll-dressed Militia Men at Norwich, red Cloth Slops and long white Trowsers. Paid Nancy for her Pigg that was lately killed 9 St. 1. 11. 6.

June 5, Saturday. I breakfasted and spent the Morning at Norwich as did Nancy, till one o'clock, then we got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and went of for Weston Parsonage, got home (thank God) safe and well about 3. o'clock to dinner. At Chamberlains, for a Pd. of Pepper, pd. o. 2. 0. At ditto for a Pd. of Stone blue, pd. o. 1. 8. At ditto for a Pd. of Salt Petre pd. o. o. 8. To one Pair of Soals to carry home pd. o. 1. 6. Had a new Carpet of Sudbury for my best Parlour for which I am to pay him 3. 5. 0—It is green and white and some Red, all in one. Had a new Hat of Wilmot my Hatter. To a Box of Wafers at Bacons,

¹ See foot-note, p. 197, vol. ii.

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pd. o. o. 4. To divers other little things pd and gave o. o. 6. Paid at the Kings Head for our eating and drinking and likewise for 3. Chaises 4. 5. o. To Servants at the Kings Head, gave o. 11. o. Paid and gave in all 4. 16. o. To my Barber, Franck, gave o. 1. 6. To the Norwich Driver, gave o. 1. 6. It appeared quite dull to us this Evening at home we missed our Somersett Friends very much. We dined, supped and slept at Weston Parsonage. Bespoke a new Coat and Waistcoat this Morn'.

June 7, Monday. . . . To Ross Bean, losing a good Horse, gave o. 10. 6. Mr. Du Quesne gave him the same as did Mr. Custance.

June 10, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning with my great Cart to Norwich with a great Trunck of my Brothers which is to go to London by Marsh's Waggon on Friday next, and from London to Cary by Whitmarshs Waggon from London to Taunton. Ben returned home by dinner time and he brought me a qr. of a Pipe of Port Wine from Mr. Priests in 4. Hampers and 159. Bottles in them. I sent by Ben to Mr. Priest, 2. Hampers and 52 Bottles for the 4. Dozen of Bottles he sent me late of W. Wine.

June 11, Friday. . . . To one Fox of Barford a Fisherman an imposing Fellow for 9. Maccarel, pd. o. 1. 6. He asked me at first 2/6 per Dozen.

June 12, Saturday. . . . Mr. Priest of Reepham break-fasted with us in his way home from Du Quesne's, on foot. Sent Ben to Norwich this morning after News &c. He returned to Dinner and brought me a Letter from my Brother at Bath who with Mrs. Woodforde and Mrs. Clarke are all well and so far on their Journey. Mr. James Clarke being at Bath I apprehend was the reason of their going Bath-Road.

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June 18, Friday. . . . Election for the City of Norwich to day of Members. Nanny [his maid who had gone to visit her sick brother] returned home to dinner. Brother better. Mrs. Custance with Miss Sarah Custance, and Mr. Custances three eldest Sons, Hambleton, George and William, made us a Visit this Evening and drank Coffee and Tea with us. The above Company had not been with us above half an Hour before Mr. Custance joined us, and he drank Tea with us also. He just arrived from Norwich— And the News from thence was, that Henry Hobart was 2. to 1. on the Poll above Mr. Windham, and Mr. Windham 2. to 1. above Sr. Thos. Beevor. Hobart and Windham is the general Cry.¹

June 19, Saturday. . . . Hobart and Windham elected Members for Norwich. Election over last night about 7. o'clock. Gathered Peas for the first Time this Year. Billy Bidewell brought my Newspapers to-day. No Letters from the West of England.

June 21. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Miss Sarah Custance and Mr. Custances three eldest Sons—Ham., George, Will^m. Mr. Custance sent his Coach for us and carried us back. We had for Dinner some Maccarel, 2. boiled Chicken, a Piggs face, young Beans, stewed Beef, Saddle [of] Mutton rosted, Green Peas Soup, baked Puddings &c. After Coffee and Tea got to Quadrille—at which won o. i. o. Mrs. Custance not very well, was far from cheerful.

June 23, Wednesday. . . . All my Clover in large Cocks, now pretty secure.

¹ For Henry Hobart see foot-notes, pp. 125 and 310, vol. ii; for William Windham, p. 219, vol. i; for Sir Thos. Beevor, foot-note, pp. 310–11, vol. ii.

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June 24, Thursday. . . Hambleton, George and Will^m.

Custance, the three eldest Sons of Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit, had some plumb Cake, Strawberries and Cream.

June 25, Friday. . . I sent some Artichokes to Weston House this Morn'. Mrs. Custance but very indifferent to day. The Election for the County was without any opposition whatever yesterday at Norwich and soon over. Sr. John Woodhouse and Mr. Coke returned.¹

June 30, Wednesday. . . Had a very indifferent Night of rest last Night, scarce slept any part of the Night, being much vapoured. Recd. for Butter this morning at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Pint o. 2. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

July 1. . . Slept pure well thank God last night after taken some Rhubarb, and drinking Rum and Water, before I went to bed last night. Busy in making alterations in my Kitchen Garden cutting down an old Hedge by my Fir Plantation.

July 2, Friday. . . Had another very good Night (thank God for it). I privately named a spurious Child of Rachael Gray by Stephen Andrews Junr., this morning at my House by name Elizabeth. We had part of a violent Tempest this Evening about 5. o'clock. It did not last long, but the Lightning was very strong indeed and Thunder loud—Thank God we received no Injury from it, and I hope none else received any.

July 3, Saturday. . . Sent Sherwoods Daughter by her Mother a Bottle of Old Port Wine—she being ill tho' better than she was. Sent Briton to Norwich this morning [after] News, Letters &c. he returned to Dinner, and brought me a Letter from my Brother at Castle-Cary, thank God ! all well. Nancy also had a

¹ For Sir John Wodehouse see foot-note, p. 125, vol. ii, and for Mr. Coke foot-note, p. 127, vol. ii, also foot-note, p. 60, preceding.

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long Letter from her Brother Saml. who dated his Letter from Venice in Italy, from thence to return to Rome for the Winter. We had another Tempest this Afternoon with most violent heavy Rains indeed—thank God we had not much Thunder or Lightning.

July 4, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with 5. Children at Church. To a little Girl of Cuppers, being at Church, gave o. o. 6.

July 5, Monday. . . . John Piper and Man, Willm. Thorogold, nailing up my Fruit Trees against the Walls. Mr. and Mrs. Custance, and their 5 Children, Miss Fanny, Miss Emily, Master Hambleton, George and William, drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon, and after Tea we played one Pool of Commerce of 6. each and which Master George Custance won. It was quite a treat for the little Folks to be out. They seemed quite happy here—w^{ch} gave us much pleasure.

July 8, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Custance and Lady Bacon made us a long Morning Visit. Just as we were going to sit down to dinner three Gentlemen like Men came to my House, to have a Copy from Weston Register concerning the Marriage of one Gimpson to a Woman of the name of Lambe about 60 Years ago, but after the examining the Register for a long time there was nothing to be found respecting the same. Finished carrying my Hay by dinner time.

July 10, Saturday. . . . Walked to Church about 11. o'clock and publickly christned Mr. Custance's last little Boy—Neville. Mr. Custance very genteely gave me a five Guinea Note (wrapt up in clean white Paper) when finished. Sr. Edmund Bacon and Mr. Press Custance were the Godfathers, Lady Bacon and Mrs. Custance (who stood I believe for another Lady) were

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the Godmothers. The Ladies returned to Weston House from Church and Sr. Edmund, Mr. Custance and his Brother Mr. Press Custance, with 4. young Gentlemen, the 3. eldest of Mr. Custances and Master Edmd. Bacon, walked home with me to see my Garden with the Ship in the Bason there, stayed about half an Hour did not come into the House—Nancy dressing above stairs. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with all the above Company and none besides. We had for Dinner, a Dish of Soals, green Peas Soup, Ham and Chicken, Beans, Fillet Veal rosted, stewed Beef &c. Turkey-Polts, a nice Leveret, Jelly, Blamange, Cherry Pye, Pickled-Salmon &c. &c. Desert, 4. kinds of Strawberries, Cherries, Melon &c. After Coffee and Tea we got to Commerce, each o. 6. Nancy won the Pool. Only 9. played. Sr. Edm. Bacon and Mrs. Custance and Master Hambleton Custance did not play at all. We returned home as we went in Mr. Custances Coach about 9. o'clock this Evening.

July 12, Monday. . . . Mr. George Beauchamp with his new Bride came to Weston House to day to spend a few Days. Very ticklish Weather still for Hay-making.

July 13, Tuesday. . . . Cupper desired me to lend him a few Shillings being he said greatly distressed. I lent him, o. 5. o. He promised faithfully to pay me again when he received his Pension from Chelsea. Recd. for Butter at $7\frac{1}{2}$ d of Mr. Cary o. 2. $2\frac{1}{4}$. We had a Tempest here this Afternoon one very loud Clap of Thunder with a double flash of Lightning. It Thundered much all the Morning at a distance.

July 14, Wednesday. . . . Just as we were going to sit down to dinner the Weston House Family with Captain Beauchamp and his new Bride, sent word that

they would drink tea with us in the Afternoon if not engaged, but we were obliged to put them off having not time to get ourselves trigg'd up, and also no white bread in House. We sent word that we could receive them to Morrow. Was but indifferent all day, having but little sleep last night.

July 15, Thursday. . . . Paid a Qrs. Land-Tax to Js. Pegg this morning 3. o. o. To a poor Woman from Dereham by name Hall with a small Child with her was taken very ill with a violent Pain within her by my great Gates and was laid down in the road, I went out to her and gave her a good Glass of Gin and gave her sixpence to go to the Inn, but she did not go there but returned back towards Dereham. She is a Widow and belongs to the House of Industry near Dereham. I hope she is no Impostor. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mr. George Beauchamp and his new Bride drank Tea with us this Afternoon. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards to limited Loo at one penny a Fish, at which won, about o. 4. o. Nancy lost at it 6^s/1^d. Nancy owes me at Cards this Even' 7^s/1^d. Mr. B[eauchamp] lost upwards of a Guinea. They left us a little before 9. o'clock. Mrs. Beauchamp much like her sister Lady Beauchamp not so handsome, but taller and larger. Thank God ! something better after taking Rhubarb last night.

July 19, Monday. . . . I took Nancy with me in my little Cart to Mattishall to Mr. Bodhams and they being at home we took a Family Dinner with them and stayed till abt. 7. Mr. Donne's Widow with a Son and Daughter and a young Gentleman by name Johnson were there.¹ After Coffee and Tea we played one short

¹ Cowper's beloved cousin 'Johnny of Norfolk': see foot-note, pp. 234-5, vol. ii, for Bodhams, Donnes, and Johnsons.

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Pool of Quadrille at which I won o. 1. o. We had for Dinner to day Beans and Bacon, a Piece of rost Beef and Yorkshire Pudding and a Currant Pye. Mrs. Bodham was but very indifferent to day. We returned home about 8. o'clock this Evening.

July 21, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Du Quesnes Housekeeper, Betty England, called on us this Morning in a single Horse Chaise. We asked her to stay and dine with us but she could not. Brewed a barrell of Small Beer.

July 22, Thursday. . . . Nancy very pert and saucy this morning.

July 23, Friday. . . . Mr. Custance and his eldest Son made us a morning Visit, stayed with us about half an Hour. Mr. and Mrs. Custance are at present under great disagreeableness, Mr. and Mrs. Alldis, the Butler and Housekeeper being going away from them. Mr. Custance with his three eldest sons, Hambleton, George and William drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon, and after Tea we played two Pools of Commerce one of which I won and Master William Custance won the other. Put in only 6^d apiece. So that I won only o. 2. o.

July 24, Saturday. . . . Made some black-Currant Rob to day.

July 27, Tuesday. . . . I did not sleep extraordinary well last Night, low. Very fine Weather again this day. Soon after breakfast I took a ride to Norwich in my little Cart and Briton went with me in it. We got to Norwich about 11. o'clock, stayed till 4. this Afternoon and then returned home to Weston by 6. I got no Dinner whatever at Norwich. Saw the Judges, (Lord Loughborough¹ and Judge Ashurst) at the Cathedral just returning from the Assize Sermon.

¹ See foot-note, pp. 146-7, vol. ii.

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Saw our new Bishop Dr. Horne¹ at the Cathedral. Called on Mr. and Mrs. Alldis at the Dove Tavern. Had a Glass of White wine with them pd. o. o. 3½. To 3. Pound of Lobsters pd. Beale, o. 1. 6. To a pair of white habit Gloves for Nancy, pd. o. 1. 6. To a blank Paper Book for Accounts, pd. o. o. 10. To some small Cakes, Porter &c. pd. o. o. 6. To 2 Doz. of Clay's Patent Paper Buttons for a black Waistcoat, pd. Baker o. 1. 0. Seeing a Planetarium Clock, very poor, gave o. 1. 0. Changed a 10 Pd. Note of Gurneys² at Norwich for Cash. For want of making a better dinner was quite tired and faint, made how[ever] a good Supper on some hot Lobsters and melted butter. Recd. this Evening for 3. Pints of Butter, o. 2. 0.

July 28, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Custance's three eldest Boys gone to School to day. Nancy busy in Making Currant Jelly &c. &c.

July 29, Thursday. . . . To a young distressed French Sailor who could talk very little English gave this Aft. o. 1. 0. A great deal of very heavy Rain fell this Morning.

July 31, Saturday. . . . One Fakenham was hanged this

¹ George Horne (1730-92), scholar of University College, Oxford, Fellow and subsequently President of Magdalen College. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University in 1776, and in 1781, on the recommendation of Lord North, was made Dean of Canterbury. He was a Bishop (of Norwich) for rather less than two years, suffering from broken health, and dying at Bath on Jan. 17, 1792. He was notable as an ecclesiastic for his support of the Methodists, and he declined to forbid John Wesley, 'an ordained minister of the Church of England', to preach in his diocese. He wrote a large number of controversial pamphlets, among them 'Letters on Infidelity' (1784), and was contemplating a 'Defence of the Divinity of Christ' against Dr. Priestley, when he died. His *Commentary on the Psalms* (1771) was his chief contribution to literature: 'I suppose the best that ever was wrote' Wesley says of it. He had a considerable reputation as a preacher. (See D.N.B. and Wesley's *Journal, passim.*)

² See foot-note, p. 140, preceding.

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day at Norwich for poisoning his Wife ; confessed the fact.

August 2, Monday. . . . Was but so, so, having had but an indifferent Night of sleep last Night, better towards Night.

August 3, Tuesday. . . . I thank God, had a tolerable good Night last Night. I drank but very little Wine Yesterday or to day only 2. or 3. Glasses. I used myself before and all last Winter to near a Pint of Port Wine every Day and I now believe did me much harm.

Aug. 5, Thursday. . . . Mr. Priest and Wife, with their 2. Daughters Rebeccah and Mary called here this morning in their way home to Reepham from Mr. Du Quesnes. N.B. This wrote with a Copper Pen, late my Mothers.

Aug. 10, Tuesday. . . . I drove Nancy to Mr. Du Quesnes in my little Cart about Noon and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, a Mr. Bentham Preband of Ely aged 82 Years and his Son Mr. Jas. Bentham who is a Clergyman and has the Living of Braddenham between Dereham and Swaffham. They came quite unexpected about an Hour before we got to Mr. Du Quesnes. We had for [Dinner] a fine Dish of Soals, a Couple of Chicken boiled and a Piggs face, a rost Leg [of] Mutton, a nice Duck rosted and green Peas, Cheesecakes, Tarts and the Charter &c. Mr. Bentham and Son attacked Mr. Du Quesne and me at a Rubber of Whist after Dinner and after drinking our Wine, we won. We played only 6^d Whist, won only, o. i. o. They left Mr. Du Quesnes about 7. in the Evening and we soon followed their Example. Mem : Old Mr. Bentham was dressed in a black Cloth Gown and Cassock and a Crape Scarf—

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He played Cards without Spectacles and walks quite strong.¹

Aug. 11, Wednesday. . . . Lost 4 young Ducks, Missed first Yesterday Noon. Very fine Weather and seems to be settled—Make us thankful O Lord ! for all thy blessings to us.

Aug. 12, Thursday. . . . Two of our lost Ducks are returned home. The other two also found this Afternoon and where should they be got to, but in the Barn. We had a good deal of Rain this Afternoon and tho' we heard no Thunder or saw Lightning yet I think the Rain proceeded from both it being very hot.

Aug. 13, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne called here about 12 o'clock in his Chariot and stayed with us about half an Hour and then went on to Mr. Jeanes's where he is to Call and from thence to go on to Mr. Priests at Reepham where we are to meet him at Dinner. During the time that Mr. Du Quesne was with us Mr. Custance called on us and stayed with us about a Quarter of an Hour after Mr. Du Quesne went. Soon after Mr. Custance left us, I took Nancy with me in my little Cart and drove on to Reepham to Mr.

¹ Old Mr. Bentham was James Bentham (1708-94), a very public-spirited parson and a distinguished antiquary. He was made a minor canon of Ely in 1737, being promoted from the vicarage of Stapleford in Cambridgeshire. His proposals for making turnpike roads in the Isle of Ely were eventually carried out under powers conferred by Act of Parliament in 1763, and a road was constructed between Ely and Cambridge. He also took a keen interest in the drainage and enclosure of the Fen District. After many years of labour he compiled and published the *History of Ely Cathedral* in 1771. In 1779 he was given a Prebendal stall in Ely Cathedral, and in 1783 he was presented to Bowbrick Hill Rectory, Buckinghamshire, presumably as a non-resident. During the latter years of his life he was occupied in a work on ancient architecture, which was never published. ‘He gained the respect of those who knew him, not only by his talents and pursuits, but by his modest and unassuming manners.’ So says his biographer in the *D.N.B.*

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Priests' where we dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Priest, Miss Priest, Miss Mary Priest, a Miss St. John, and Mr. Du Quesne. We drove by Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham without calling, and in less than a Mile of Reepham we met Mr. Jeanes on horseback, we both stopped and a great deal of altercation took place between us, more cool at parting than meeting. We did not get to Mr. Priests till half past 2 o'clock. We had for Dinner a Couple of boiled Chickens, a Pigs face, broad beans, Leg of Mutton rosted, Blamange and Currant Tarts mixed with Rasberries. After Coffee and Tea, we set of for Weston as we went and thank God got safe and well home before 8 o'clock. Mr. Du Quesne also returned home with us. I thought we should have had a severe Tempest this Evening but it went off with very little Thunder or Lightning, about 11. At night Starlight.

Aug. 15, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church with their two Daughters, Nancy at Church also. Mrs. Custance very deaf having taking cold. Mr. and Mrs. Townshend with Mrs. Cornwallis just gave us a Call this Evening about eight o'clock in a full boddied Coach, but did not get out, they had been to Weston-House to ask them to dinner on Tuesday next—but they do not. They came to ask Nancy on that day. I was invited before by Mr. Du Quesne but Nancy not. Mr. Priest and Mr. Jeanes also invited but not their Wives. We are to have a Haunch of Venison that Day. Nancy goes if not prevented by Rain in the little Cart. We were just going to Supper as they came. Nancy did not make her appearance.

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Aug. 17, Tuesday. . . . It appearing about 2 o'clock this Afternoon very likely for Rain and some Rain did fall tho' but very little at that time, prevented Nancy from going to Mr. Townshends to dinner, tho' she was dressed and all fit to go, my little Cart up to the door and all. After waiting some time and desiring Nancy to go I got into my little Cart at half past 3 o'clock and drove away to Honingham Hall, got there about 4 o'clock, and there dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Townshend, Mrs. Cornwallis, Justice Rash of Dereham, Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Priest of Reepham and Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham. We had for Dinner—1st Course, a Dish of Soals boiled and fried, Couple of boiled Chicken and Tongue, Beans and Bacon, stewed Beef and an Haunch of Venison rosted at the lower end. 2nd Course, a Couple of rost Ducks and Green Peas, a Leveret rosted, Maccaroni, Patties, Blamange red-Currant Pye &c. Desert, Raspberries and Strawberries, Gooseberries and Currants. Mr. Rash very entertaining Man at Table. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, to Cribbage. Mr. Du Quesne and Mrs. Cornwallis against me and Mr. Priest, I won o. o. 6. I returned home to Weston Parsonage between 8 and 9. I took Briton with me to take care of my Cart &c. They enquired after Nancy very civilly and sent Compts. The Venison was very fat but young and killed only Saturday last—came from L^d. Buckinghamshires,¹ and arrived only this Morning at Mr. Townshends. It had very little flavour in it—and was tough. It should have been kept longer.

Aug. 18, Wednesday. . . . Begun Harvest this Afternoon—cutting Oats.

August 20, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne informed us

¹ See foot-note, p. 100, vol. ii.

that Mr. and Mrs. Townsend and Mrs. Cornwallis would drink Tea with us on Sunday next in the Afternoon. I asked Mr. and Mrs. Custance to meet them which they said they would with pleasure.

Aug. 22, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached, this Afternoon at Weston Church—Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their two young Ladies, Mr. and Mrs. Townshend with Mrs. Cornwallis and two of the Miss Townshends, and Mr. Du Quesne drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon. They all came in two full-bodied Coaches with four Horses to each and each drove by two Postilions, no Coach Box to either. Mr. Du Quesne came quite unexpected it being Sunday, but was very glad to see him. He came in his one horse Chaise. He was not in high Spirits. They came about 6. and went away about 8. o'clock. It was an awkward day for visiting, but It was Mr. Townshends appointment. They all seemed well pleased as they went away. There were 7 Servants¹ and 12 Horses with the Company.

Aug. 24, Tuesday. . . . Sent one Dozen and one very fine Apricots from my best Tree called the Anson Apricot, to Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Weston House by my Maid Betty. They sent us back some fine black Grapes which came from Mackay's Hot House, a Gardner at Norwich. Delightful Harvest Weather, blessed be God for it.

Aug. 25. . . . To 5. Yards of the best black Velveret (to make two Pair of Breeches) of Bagshaw who came here just before Dinner, paid him, 1. 5. 0. I was but poorly all day being low spirited had but an indifferent night of rest—I think it is some gouty humour lurking in the Constitution.

¹ See Introduction.

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Aug. 27, Friday. . . Begun cutting Barley this Morning, and in the Afternoon shearing Wheat and carrying it. I had a good deal of Wheat in Sheaf before the Rain came so unaware upon us, and could not get it home, and is now very wet quite to the middle of it and must stay out.

Aug. 28, Saturday. . . Briton went early this Morning to Norwich on horseback, after News-papers &c. I sent a long Letter to my Sister Pounsett by him. He returned home to dinner—No Letters. In shearing Wheat this Afternoon Briton cut off part of his left hand Thumb with the Sickle, owing in a great Measure to his making too free with Liquor at Norwich to day, having met his Uncle Scurl there who treated him with Wine. It bled very much I put some Friars Balsam to it and had it bound up, he almost fainted.

Aug. 29, Sunday. . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. As I was coming out of the Church-Yard a very handsome Carriage with four grey Horses in it with Servants in white Liveries and I believe turned up with Green, passed by Our Churchyard Wall—supposed to be Lord Buckinghamshires. There were two Gentlemen in it, supposed to be Lord Buckinghamshire and his Brother Hen. Hobart.¹

Aug. 30, Monday. . . Mrs. Thorne of Mattishall with her Daughter, Mary Anne called here this morning in a single Horse Chaise as they were going to North-Repps near Cromer to meet the London Barclays'—Quakers. They did not get out of the Chaise. Recd. of my Butcher for Tallow 7 lb. 0. 1. 9. Sent Mr. and Mrs. Townshend a Basket of Apricots this Morning about 15, they being very scarce. Mr. Townshend

¹ See foot-notes, pp. 100, 125, and 310, vol. ii.

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with Mrs. Cornwallis was this Morning gone to Mr. Cokes at Holkham.¹ Mr. and Mrs. Custance gone out this morning for a Week to Raveningham Hall Sr. Edmund Bacons.

Aug. 31, Tuesday. . . . To Knight's Son who brought me a young Leveret alive, and which I turned loose near my House gave 1. 0.

Sept. 1, Wednesday. . . . Very fine Day for the Harvest thank God. Sr. Thomas Durrant² we heard to day died on Monday last—Had been long ill. Mr. Custance was sent express for on the Occasion.

Sept. 2, Thursday. . . . We had a brace of Partridges from Weston-House. A very sudden Tempest from the West happened here about 5 o'clock in the Afternoon but it was of short duration about half an Hour. Ben and the Boy getting home a Load of Peas were wet thro' only going from the Cover Gate to the Barn with the Cart as were Betty and Briton who were with them. It rained and hailed amazingly during the Time—Many loud Claps [of] Thunder with strong Lightning. Nancy was but just come from walking in the Garden. I dont know that I ever knew a storm so sudden. I was very heavy all day took Rhubarb in the Evening.

Sept. 3, Friday. . . . Mostly wet with high Wind, no carrying Corn to day. About 5 o'clock this Afternoon Mr. Custance unexpectedly called on us and drank a dish of Tea with us. We thought that he was with his Sister Lady Durrant at Scottow. He returned this Aft. Mr. Custance brought some Papers for me to sign respecting all his Children being put into the new Tontine Annuities—Copies of the Register of

¹ See foot-notes, p. 90 (for Mrs. Cornwallis), and p. 127 (for Coke), vol. ii.

² See foot-note, p. 345, vol. ii.

their Birth and Certificates of their Residence.. The Residence of Master Hambleton, George and William Custance I could not sign as they are at present at School at Palgrave. Miss Francis, and Emily Custance with Master John and Neville Custance I signed throughout. Sr. Thos. Durrant is to be buried on Tuesday next, about 5 o'clock in the Afternoon.

Sept. 6, Monday. . . . Mr. Bodham sent me over this Morning early (by Willm. Ward his farming Man) a nice black greyhound Puppy, a Dog, seven Weeks old. I gave Willm. for the trouble of bringing it o. i. o. I set the Name of Snip to it. Mr. Jeanes called on us this Morning to ask us to dinner on Saturday.

Sept. 8, Wednesday. . . . Norwich Musick Festival begun this Morning. I did not go having had enough of the last Musick Meeting in September 1788—at which I experienced a great deal of uneasiness and for which it cost me besides about 7. o. o. It was a very good day for the Harvest.

Sept. 9, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Custance called on us this Morning and very good-naturedly and genteelly offered us places in her Coach to Morrow Morning to go with her to the Musick at Norwich in the Morning at St. Peters Church—The principal Parts of the Divine Messiah &c. being to be performed there.¹

Sept. 10, Friday. . . . We breakfasted before 7 o'clock this Morning: at half past eight Mrs. Custance took us up into her Coach and carried us to Norwich and put us down at St. Peter of Mancroft Church before eleven o'clock and there we stayed till three in the Afternoon highly delighted indeed with the Musical performance. Select Pieces from the Messiah, Joshua &c., a great Band with the Abbey Double Drums;

¹ See foot-note, p. 50, preceding.

between 8 and 900 People present. Tickets 5^s/0^d each. Segniora Storace the principal Singer, Miss Pool the second. Saw Sr. Edm^d and Lady Bacon, Sr. Thos. and Lady Beauchamp, Sr. John Woodhouse, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Windham and our New Bishop Dr. Horne and Family &c. We returned with Mrs. Custance to Weston House about 5 in the Afternoon and there took a Family Dinner with her and Mr. Custance. The latter was but just returned from Scottow having been there ever since Monday last in adjusting the late Sr. Thos. Durrants Affairs, he being left joint Executor with Lady Durrant. We returned home to Weston Parsonage by 8, rather fatigued with the hurry of the Day. On our return home found a Note on my Table from Mr. Jeanes, to put off our dining with him, on Monday next instead of to Morrow. As the Haunch of Venison will be better by being kept till then as supposed by some—Hope it will be sweet.

Sept. 13, Monday. . . . To Largesses to day, gave o. 2. o. Mr. Du Quesne called here in his single-Horse Chaise about 11. o'clock this Morning and stayed till about 12. and then went on to Mr. Jeanes's to dinner. Nancy went to Mr. Jeanes's at the same time in her little Cart and Briton drove her. I walked thither by myself about 1 o'clock, got to Witchingham to Mr. Jeanes's about a Quarter after 2. Went by Ben Howletts. I dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Jeanes's with him, his Wife, Major Lloyd and eldest Son, Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Priest and my Niece and and Mr. Copland a Gentleman Farmer. We had for Dinner, hashed Calfs Head, a very fat Haunch of Venison from the New-Forest and a baked Potatoe-Pudding. It being Mr. Jeanes's Birth Day who now

is 42 Years of Age we drank his Health in some very good Claret, we drank 2 Bottles. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes behaved very genteel to us. We had a good deal of Musick by Mr. Jeanes, Major Lloyd and Mr. Du Quesne. The Potatoe Pudding was remarkably good. We returned as we went after Coffee and Tea. We got home about half past 7. o'clock this Evening. I was a little and but a very little fatigued.

Sept. 17, Friday. . . . The young Woman Spincks (who lately had a Bastard Child by one Garthon of Norwich) called on me this morning to acquaint me that her Child is dead, died last night, owing it is supposed to her [having] given him a Sleeping Pill which she had of her Neighbour Nobbs whose Husband is very ill and had some composing Pills from Mr. Thornes, one of which Nobbs wife advised her to give her Child to put him to sleep whilst she was out. The Child slept for about 5 hours, then he waked and fell into convulsion fits whch. continued for 4 Hours and half and then died in great Agonies. If the Child died owing to the effects of the Pill, I believe it not intentionally given to destroy the Child as she always had taken particular care of him and looked remarkably healthy. I advised her to make herself easy on that respect. Mr. Peachman and Mr. Buck also called on me this morning soon after and talked with me a good deal on the death of the Child. They both think that the Childs Death was owing to the Mothers giving the Pill to it. I had no objection I told them of burying the Child without the Coroners Inquest, as It was possible the Child might have died without taking the Pill, however it ought to be well considered on for the public good. I took a walk with my Niece to Weston House this morning, in our way there we met with Mr. Custance

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in Weston Field, and soon after Mr. Press Custance with another gentleman by name Mitchel out of Devonshire, on a shooting party, Mr. Du Quesne also we saw in Weston Field whilst with Mr. Custance in his return home from Reepham. If I mistake not the above gentleman by name Mitchel who was with Mr. Press Custance I saw at Bruton Church when last in Somersett, and I believe Son of Mr. Mitchel the School-master at Bruton and a Clergyman and who came from Devonshire. He looked exactly like him I must confess. We stayed about an Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and returned home to dinner. In the Afternoon I walked to Mr. Bucks and advised him and the Woman Spincks to inform the Father of the Child of its death and to send for Mr. Thorne to have his Opinion whether the Childs Death was owing to the Pill being given it, as Mr. Thorne made them. Mr. Buck sent immediately to Mr. Thorne. I returned home to Tea before the Dr. came. To Largesses to day gave o. 2. 0.

Sept. 18, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early to Norwich this morning with my little Cart, returned not till 3 this Afternoon the Cart being obliged to have something done to it. No Letters at all. He brought 2 pair of Soals and half a Dozen new Maccarel the first this Season. Mr. Thorne called here about Noon having been to see the dead Child and said that its Death was owing to the Mothers giving it part of the Pill. Soon after the Doctor went, the Mother of the Child Eliz. Spincks came here to know what to do, I told her to go to the Overseer (Emery) to send for the Coroner and inspect the Body before I could bury it. To Largesses to day, gave o. 4. 0.

Sept. 19, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this

Afternoon at Weston Church. Mrs. Custance with her 2 Daughters at Church. It being a fine Day Nancy was at Church. But few Farmers at Church this Afternoon on Account of an Inquest being taken by a Coroner from Norwich on the Body of Eliz. Spincks Boy. They were from 1. till near 5. on the above business. The Jury brought in their Verdict—not intentionally given by the Mother to her Child. This Evening between 6. and 7. I buried the Child (by name Garthon Spincks) in the Churchyard. As we were walking back from Church we met with Mr. Forster in his Market-Cart and with him Mr. Priest of Norwich whose intention was to have been at Weston Church this Aft. but they were too late. We saw them just by our House. I asked them to walk in but they did not. Mr. Priests Wife is at Lenewade Bridge at Forsters. Mr. Forster asked us to drink Tea to Morrow in the Afternoon to meet the Priests of Reepham there.

Sept. 20, Monday. . . . It being a fine morning I walked with Nancy down to Lenewade Bridge and stayed about an Hour at Mr. Forsters with him, his Wife, old Mrs. Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. Priest from Norwich.

We returned home to dinner tho' asked to dine there.

Sept. 21, Tuesday. . . . Busy most part of the morning in bottling off 2 four Gallon Casks of Holland Gin.

Sept. 23, Thursday. . . . The Duke of Cumberland (Brother to the King) is reported to be dead. He had been ill some time.¹

¹ Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III and nephew of the great Duke of Cumberland (see vol. i, pp. 17–18 and footnote). He was an undistinguished person, but made a great sensation in the social world in the autumn of 1771 by marrying a commoner, a widow, Mrs. Horton (*née* Anne Luttrell, sister of Wilkes's opponent Col. Luttrell). Horace Walpole describes her in a letter of Nov. 7, 1771, as 'a young widow of twenty-four, extremely pretty, not handsome, very well made,

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Sept. 24, Friday. . . . Nancy was taken very ill this Afternoon with a pain within her, blown up so as if poisoned, attended with a vomiting. I supposed it proceeded in great measure from what she eat at Dinner and after. She eat for Dinner some boiled Beef rather fat and salt, a good deal of a nice rost duck, and a plenty of boiled Damson Pudding. After Dinner by way of Desert, she eat some green-gage Plumbs, some Figgs, and Rasberries and Cream. I desired her to drink a good half pint Glass of warm Rum and Water which she did and soon was a little better—for Supper she had Water-gruel with a Couple of small Table Spoonfuls of Rum in it, and going to bed I gave her a good dose of Rhubarb and Ginger. She was much better before she went to bed—And I hope will be brave to Morrow.

Sept. 25, Saturday. . . . Nancy thank God Much better this Morning—The Rhubarb made her rise earlier than usual. She dined on a rost Neck of Mutton and supped on Water-gruel and at night quite hearty and well. Billy Bidewells Wife brought our Papers to day from Norwich, no Letters—The Death of his Royal Highness Henry Frederick Duke of Cumberland in his 45 Year, Brother to his Majesty, in them. He died it is supposed of the Evil—an eating Ulcer had entirely destroyed the roof of his Mouth. He was in a manner suffocated at last.

Sept. 28, Tuesday. . . . As I was walking out this Morning I met with Mr. Maynard a Clergyman that lives at Attlebridge Inn and serves Attlebridge, Alderford, Morton and Ringland—most of them only served once

with the most amorous eyes in the world, and eye-lashes a yard long. Coquette beyond measure, artful as Cleopatra, and completely mistress of all her passions and projects.' Horace Walpole's *Letters*, vol. viii, p. 104.

a fortnight.¹ It being near my House I asked him to walk in which he did, and drank a Glass of White-Wine and eat some plumb Cake, then took a Walk with me round my Garden and then left me. Nancy did not make her Appearance being dressing. Thos. Cupper of this Parish died Yesterday, I never heard that he had been worse than usual, he was at Norwich last Week and brought home ill on Saturday last. He has left a Wife and one Child.

Sept. 30, Thursday. . . . Sent some fine Figgs to Weston House by Briton and they sent us back in return a brace of Partridges. I walked to Weston Church about 2 o'clock this Afternoon and buried poor Tom Cupper aged 56 Yrs. Mrs. Custance with her two Daughters drank Coffee and Tea with us this Evening and stayed till 8. Mr. Custance gone to Scotto[w] to day for a few days. I shewed Mrs. Custance all my Coins this Even'.

Oct. 1, Friday. . . . Poor old Mr. Robertson the Apparitor dined with our People in Kitchen to day. He brought me notice of the Generals being at Reepham on Friday the 22nd Instant. Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham is to preach.

Octob. 4, Monday. . . . To my Servant Man, Ben, for a Certificate to kill Game, which I sent him to Norwich for pd. 2. 3. 0.² To Ditto, for other little things pd. 0. 4. 11. To my Maid, Betty, for things pd. 0. 2. 9. To my Man, Briton, for ditto pd. 0. 2. 1. Mr. Jeanes made us a morning visit, I asked him to dine but he could not—Sent Mrs. Jeanes a Fig.

Oct. 6, Wednesday. . . . Walked out a coursing for the first time this Season from 10 in the Morning till near

¹ See pp. 38–9, vol. i, for some remarks on non-residence and pluralities in the eighteenth century.

² See foot-note, p. 144, preceding.

3 in the Afternoon, coursed 3 Hares but killed none having but one Greyhound ; killed one Rabbitt : Ben and my Boy John Dalliday only with me—Briton being busy at home brewing some strong Beer. On my return home from coursing about 3 found Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest at my house come to take a family Dinner with us, which they did on some boiled beef and a Couple of rost Chicken. Mr. Priest had called before in the Morning on foot in his road to Du Quesnes and sat some time with my Niece and refreshed himself with some Cake and Gin and Water. They left us before Tea there being no Moon. Mr. Priest very desirous of some figs which I got for him. Mr. Du Quesne very well and in high Spirits. Brewed a Barrel of strong Beer, alias October.

Octob. 8, Friday. . . . Mr. Priest breakfasted with us this morning in his way home from Mr. Du Quesnes on foot. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent us some Eels this Morning, gave the bearer o. i. o. The Rev. Mr. Atthill of Sparham we hear is dead.

Oct. 9, Saturday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne made us a morning visit. To Morrow being Sunday and also old Michaelmas Day, and my Boy John Dalliday being then to leave my Service, he growing too big for the place, I paid him therefore his Wages due to him, this Evening, the Sum of 1. 11. 6 being three Quarters of a Year from Xmas last.

Oct. 10, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and administred the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church, but few People at Church being old Michaelmas Day. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the Sacrament. For an Offring at the Altar, gave o. 2. 6. My Servant Lad John Dalliday left my Service and House soon after he had dined to day.

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Oct. 11, Monday. . . . Old Mr. Ashull being on a Visit at Mr. Bodhams took a ride by himself over to Weston and stayed the best part of an Hour with us this Morning, eat some plumb Cake and drank some W: Wine. Mr. Buck sent us some Walnuts as a present. Gave the Girl that brought them o. i. o. My new Servant Lad by name Willm. Downing came home this Evening as they call it here.

Oct. 12, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance with her Sister Lady Bacon made us a morning Visit, stayed about an Hour. Nancy and myself took about half a tea-spoonful of Ether soon after they were gone, being full of Wind.

Oct. 16, Saturday. . . . Had a Letter this Evening (by one of Mr. Custances Servants) from my Niece Pounsett—all well. Mr. Cary brought my News-Papers from Norwich. Paid Mr. Custance's Servant for the Letter o. i. o.

Oct. 17, Sunday. . . . I did not sleep extraordinary last night, rather uneasy in mind as my Sister Pounsett omitted writing to me herself &c. I sent a Note to Weston House this morning to desire the favour of Sr. Edmund and Lady Bacon, with Mr. and Mrs. Custance's Company to Tea this Afternoon, Sr. Edmd. being going away from Weston House to Morrow Morn'. They sent word Back that they would come. Just as were going to Church this Afternoon Sr. Edmd. Bacon came on foot to our House and walked to Church with us, where I read Prayers and Preached and christned 2. Children of Chapman's, adults, that had been named before. Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Lady Bacon also at Church. Sr. Edmd. and Lady Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. Custance came to us at 6 o'clock and stayed till after 8. After Coffee and Tea,

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to amuse my Company, I shewed them my small Collection of Coins. We had but small Congregation at Church this Afternoon for an Afternoon and Weather fine. St. Faiths Fair is however to be to Morrow.

Oct. 18, Monday. . . . I walked to Weston Church this morning about 11 o'clock and there married Thomas Arthurton and Mary Newel both single Persons by banns for which I received only 0. 2. 6 having recd. half a Crown before on their banns. After my return from Church I mounted my Mare and rode to Mr. Du Quesnes, to enquire how he was, having heard yesterday that he was but very indifferent. On my arrival there found him tolerably well and cheerful, stayed with him an hour and returned home to dinner. He told me that he had lately a palpitation of the heart which alarmed him. I advised him when attacked by it again to take a small Tea-spoonful of Ether in a Wine Glass of Water. I am inclined to think that his Complaint proceeds from flatulencies, as People advanced in Years are much subject to. He seemed much inclined to my Opinion. He was sorry that I could not dine with him on Friday next to meet Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. and Mrs. Townshend and with them, Lord and Lady Stawel of Holte-Forest near Farnham, Surrey. The present Lord Stawel is Son of the late Hon. Henry Bilson Legge.¹ Lady Stawel, late Miss Curzon, is Daughter of Asheton Curzon Esq. Brother of Lord Scarsdale. Mr. Custance and self cannot wait on them—Mr. Custance being obliged to go to Lady Durrants and myself obliged to attend the Arch Deacons Visitation at Reepham on that Day. Mrs. Custance goes and takes my Niece with her. St. Faiths Fair to day. Weather against it.

¹ See pp. 49-50, vol. i.

My Servant Maid, Nanny Kaye, was desirous of going there, had my Leave and went on foot, returned home about 9. in the Evening.

Oct. 19, Tuesday. . . . Poor Henry Nobbs still alive and worse to day than he has been. Pray God release him from his Misery, or make him better. All hopes of recovery without Providence, have long been given up.

Oct. 20, Wednesday. . . . I took a ride this morning to Weston House, stayed there about half an Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, then rode on to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham, stayed with them about an Hour and returned home to Dinner by 3 o'clock. Mr. Jeanes was gone after the hounds (of Mr. Brainthwaites at Taverham), but was returned about 10. minutes before I left his house. I chatted near an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes before. I rode on my old Mare and carried me very well. Briton went with me on my little Hobby, Rodney.

Oct. 22, Friday. . . . This being our Archdeacons Visitation at Reepham I went on my old Mare there, and Briton went with me. I got thither by 11. o'clock this morning, put my Horses up at the Kings Arms where we dined, from thence walked to Church and heard a very good Sermon preached by Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham. Mr. Priest read Prayers. The Archdeacon did not attend. The Official Mr. Baker attended for him. The Clergy that attended were the following—Mr. Jeanes, Mr. Priest, Dr. Baker, Mr. Astley, Mr. Whitmell, Mr. Carr, Mr. Bell, Mr. Sandiford, Mr. Bryant Senr. Mr. Bryant Junr, Mr. Maynard, Mr. Taswell, Mr. Bullwer, Mr. Church Curate of Colltishall and myself. All the Clergy, but Mr. Taswell and Mr. Bullwer dined at the Kings Arms. Mr. Baker the Official with Mr. Morphew Junr. and his Clerk dined

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also with us. We had a good Dinner and good Wine. For our Dinner and extraordinaries each pd. o. 3. 6. Paid Mr. Morphew, my forfeit for not attending the last Generals, being unwell o. 1. 0. We dined about 2. o'clock, broke up about 5 o'clock and I got home about six. The Revd. Mr. Church an agreeable gentlel Man. Mrs. Custance took Nancy with her to day to dine at Mr. Du Quesnes with Mr. and Mrs. Townshend &c. Mr. Custance and self were invited but could not go, Mr. Custance being obliged to go to his Sister Lady Durrants, and I was engaged to Reepham. It was after 10 o'clock at Night before Nancy returned home. They did not dine till near six o'clock in the Evening. Mr. Du Quesne had the following Company, Mrs. Cornwallis, Mr. and Mrs. Townshe[n]d, Lord and Lady Stawel, Mrs. C[ustance] and my Niece. Nancy likes Lady Stawel better than his Lordship. Nancy liked going there. Nancy played at Cribbage with Mrs. Custance against Lady Stawel and Mr. Townshend, Nancy won 3. 0. We stayed up to Night till after 12 o'clock to see the total Ecclipse of the Moon, but it being cloudy we could not see it distinctly.

Oct. 23, Saturday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne had for dinner Yesterday, a dish of Fish Soals, Whiting and Smelts, Ham and Chicken, Peas Soup, Saddle of Mutton, Patties and a Batter Pudding with garden Stuff—for the 2nd Course, rost Pheasant, Charter, rost Duck, Cheesecakes, blamange, baked Peas and Tartlets. Dessert, Pears, Apples, Walnuts, red Currants, Almonds and Raisins. My Newspapers brought by Billy Bide-well from Nor[wich].

Oct. 24, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. None from Weston

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H[ouse] at Church. Whilst I was at the Generals on Friday last Ben sold my old Cow, Polly, an old Sow, and three young Pigs or Shots to one Andrews by Name Dick Andrews for the great sum of 4. 1. 6 which Ben paid me last Saturday.

Oct. 26, Tuesday. . . . [He had been very low-spirited the day before.] Thanks be to God ! I had a good night of sleep, and was much better this Morning. 'Praise the Lord O my Soul, and all that is within 'me praise his holy Name' Amen, Amen, Amen. Mrs. Custance made us a morning Visit.

Oct. 27, Wednesday. . . . Paid to my Servant Man, Ben Leggatt, for setting 6 Acres of Wheat by Jⁿ Heavers's Company at 9 Shillings per Acre, paid 2. 14. 0. To ditto, for other small things pd o. 6. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. To my Servant Maid Betty Dade for Do. pd. 13. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. To my Servt. Man Bretingham Scurl, pd. 6. 1. It being a fine dry Day my Folks were busy in gathering in my Apples. All my Nonpariels Golden-Pippins, and other Parlour Apples in my Orchard were not above half a Peck in all. My old Beefan Tree had a good many on it. Poor Henry Nobbes continues near in the same terrible Situation, if any thing, worse. His Death has been daily expected for near two months, as the Faculty then declared that his case was incurable, that nothing could be done for him to any effect whatever. Pray God ! release him out of his misery, and send Comfort to his distressed Wife. He wants for nothing in the eating and drinking way. Mr. Custance is very good to him and the Parish proper Allowance. I often send him some of the Sacramental Money for necessities. His case puzzles the faculty, they say that it is something of the Wenn-kind.

Oct. 30, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early to Norwich in

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my little Cart after Newspapers, Letters &c. from thence. He returned home to dinner. No Letters. He brought home a Leash of Birds called Reeves which he bought at Norwich for 1. Shilling—The make of a Woodcock but not in colour nor so large, with red Legs, long Bill, white breast and belly, back light grey and white spotted. We had one of them rosted for Supper like a Woodcock. It was very little inferior indeed to the Woodcock, very fine bird to eat. The Ruff is the male bird of this Species as large again with a ruff round its neck.

Nov. 2, Tuesday. . . . Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day. My Cow Betsy had a Cow Calf this morning. She gave Milk till within the last fortnight.

Nov. 4, Thursday. . . . To my blacksmith Jos. Palmer for work done for me at his late Shop at Weston from Michaelmas 1789, to Michaelmas 1790, paid a Bill this Morn' to him at my House, to the amount of 1. 12. 6. Mr. Jeanes made us a morning Visit abt. an Hour. I asked him to stay and dine with us but he could not. A large flight of wild-geese flew over our Garden pretty high this Afternoon abt. 3 o'clock. It is reckoned a prognostic of an hard Winter. They flew from South to the North.

Nov. 5, Friday. . . . Bagshaw with his Cart of Goods called here soon after breakfast, and I paid him for things that I bought of him, as undermentioned 6. 2. 9. To one Piece of light Holland-Cloth for Shirts very good, 13 Yrds at 3^s/-^d, 1. 19. 0. To one Piece of Irish do. 16 Yrds $\frac{1}{2}$ at 2^s/6^d 2. 1. 3. To 6 Yrds of fine Flannel at 1/6 o. 9. 0. To 7 Yrds. of Purple Cotton at 1^s/10^d o. 12. 10. To 7 Yrds Callico at 1/2 o. 8. 2. To 1. Pair of black and white worsted Stock[ings] o. 4. 0. To 1. Pair of Ash-Colour do. Welch o. 3. 6. To 16 half

Quarters of Cotton and for Patches o. 5. o which last I gave to my Niece for her work. I sent Ben and my Boy out a Coursing this Morn and intended to have met them, but just as I was going Mr. Custance called on us and stayed near an Hour with us. Ben killed a fine Young Hare before he returned with only my Greyhound Bitch, Fly.

Nov. 6, Saturday. . . . I sent Ben to Norwich this morning on horseback after News &c. he returned home to dinner. As I walked to Church between 2 and 3 o'clock this Afternoon I met Mr. Townshends Carriage in which were Mrs. Cornwallis and Mrs. Townshend, they stopped the Carriage on seeing me and I had some Conversation with them. Mrs. Cornwallis sets out for London Next Week. They had been (I believe) to Weston House. This Days News brings an Account of all things being amicably settled between Spain and us.¹ The Church is repairing and will not be fit to Morrow Morning for divine Service, therefore I sent this Evening to Weston House &c. to acquaint them of there being no Service to Morr'.

Nov. 9, Tuesday. . . . Poor Nobbes but just alive and in great pain. Pray God! have mercy on him and relieve him. I sent him some money by my Maid Nanny. Brewed a Barrel of Table-Beer.

Nov. 10, Wednesday. . . . To James Pegg for Taxes, pd. 8. 3. 6. Had a thin flannel lining put to the Arms and Shoulders of my Cotton Gowns for the Morning the first time of its being done this Day and very comfortable wearing this time of the Year.

Nov. 12, Friday. . . . I walked up to Church before dinner to see if the Masons had most finished, found that they would finish this Evening, but that the

¹ See foot-note, p. 188, preceding.

Church would not be fit for Service on Sunday as it is exceeding damp from the Plaster &c. Gave the Mason, Elsegood of Dereham, to scrape the lower part of the Chancel Walls of the green damp and washing it over o. i. o. Sent Briton to Simonds of Reepham with my Watch for him to clean it. He returned home by dinner time.

Nov. 13, Saturday. . . . To one Barber (assistant to Mr. Hardy, Mason) who is very good to a poor blind Mother, gave i. o.

Nov. 17, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Priest of Reepham called here this morning, on foot in his way to Mr. Du Quesne's. Mr. Cotman of Yarmouth is at Mr. Du Quesnes. We were invited to dine there to Morrow to meet the above and some friends of Mattishall, but we sent word back that we could not, as Mrs. Custance is to drink Tea then with us.

Nov. 19, Friday. . . . Mr. Simonds of Reepham, Watchmaker, brought my Watch home this morning and he stayed and dined with our People in Kitchen, after he had cleaned my eight Day Clock below Stairs, which he made. Mr. Stephen Andrews called on me about 2. o'clock in the Afternoon of Yesterday about burying the Widow of the old late Dick Betts—Saturday about 2. in the Aft.

Nov. 20, Saturday. . . . To Mr. Cantrell's Servant Lad for bringing me one Dozen of Port Wine and 2. Gallons of Rum in a small Cask, gave him o. o. 6. Returned by him 13. Bottles and the empty Cask. I buried about 2. o'clock this Afternoon poor Lydia Betts, Widow of the late old Richd. Betts. I did not know that she was ill, till she was dead. She was above 70. Years of Age, I was told. The Corpse was carried by my House, and what was remarkable a recruiting Party with a Drum

and fife and Flag flying, passed just before all by chance —Drum beating and fife playing. They came from Lyng, Lyng fair being Yesterday in pursuit of a young Fellow who had listed Yesterday and had run away, and who shd. that young Fellow be but Barber, Mr. Hardy's the Mason's Lad, to whom I gave a Shilling to last Saturday, hearing he was a good sober Lad and particularly kind to his aged Mother. Mr. Cary brought our News from Norwich. No Letter.

Nov. 22, Monday. . . . A right true November Day, dark, wet, windy and cold.

Nov. 23, Tuesday. . . . My poor Parishioner Henry Nobbs continues near the same. O Lord pardon and deliver him out of his present great pain and misery.

Nov. 24, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance gone to Langley &c. Mr. Custance left at home. Mrs. Custance is to be out 10 Days. For 2. Pints of Butter sold last Week, recd. o. i. 8. Nancy complained of an Head-Ache Yesterday, she has been making use of Tar-Water again. That perhaps might occasion it, I think it wrong.

Nov. 25, Thursday. . . . Nancy repeated to me this Evening seventy two Verses taken out of a Magazine of some of the Kings of England from 1066 the time that William the Conqueror began to reign till 1737 when George the 2nd succeeded his Father George the 1st. She repeated them without missing one Word. I sent Ben after breakfast round the Parish to let them know that my Tithe Audit will be Tuesday. He returned about 4. in the Aft. pretty full of Liquor. Every Farmer almost asked him to drink.

Nov. 26, Friday. . . . Busy this morning in writing a long Letter to my Sister Pounsett in answer to her Daughter's. I had a pain in my right under Jaw owing to a loose Tooth that I have got there. A poor fellow from

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Windham (who looked exactly as if he came out of Jail, a young Fellow, short, black Hair, a very dirty Shirt, a Short kind of brown great Coat and Kitty-boots) came to the back door and begged some Victuals. I gave him part of a rost Neck of Veal and bread. He might be and I hope is a very honest Fellow, but his appearance was much against him.

Nov. 28, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church. Mr. Custance at Church. I also publickly baptized a Child of Will^m Large's. I prayed for poor Henry Nobbs (who continues near the same) and likewise for Eliz. Atterton who lives with Taylor Clarke on Oddnam-Green, and is in a very dangerous state of Health. My poor Neighbour John Clarke has been very bad for the last 4. or 5. Days and none of us knew anything of it till this morning. His Complaint is a large kind of Carbuncle on his thigh. It broke Yesterday and is now better.

Nov. 29, Monday. . . . I sent Briton to Witchingham this Morning to Mr. Jeanes's to enquire after him and Family, he brought back word that both Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes were ill, the latter so bad as to be confined to her bed in a fever. Their Daughters in a fine way of recovery from the small-Pox being inoculated. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent me a very large Eel and one small one, by Britons Brother Jacob, who lives with him as a Servant-Prentice. I gave him some Victuals and drink and o. i. o. My Neighbour John Clarke something better, I sent him some Victuals and some money. Mr. Townshends Game-keeper John Hutchins by order of Mr. Townshend brought My Niece a fine Cock-Pheasant, killed this Morning. Our Folks busy to day in preparing things for my Tithe Audit to Morrow.

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Nov. 30, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This being my Tithe Audit the following People paid me for Tithe &c. and dined and spent the Afternoon and Night till 3. in the Morning. Messieurs Girling, Peachman, Howlett, Baker, Andrews, Sundon (?) Silvey, Case, Emeris, Mann Junr., Pegg, Bush, Bide-well, Buck, Dunnell, Reynolds, Norton, Hardy, Pratt, Rising, Cary, Heavers and Gooch—recd. in all this Day 297. 10. 6. We had for Dinner, Salt Fish, boiled Rabbitts, Leg of Mutton boiled, a fine Surloin of Beef, rosted, boiled Beef, four large plumb Puddings and one plain one. There was drank 8. Bottles of Rum made into Punch, Six Bottles of Port Wine and a great Quantity of strong Beer which was exceeding good and much liked by all. There being no Moon till after 12. at Night made it rather the later being very dark. It was very cold in the Evening with Snow. Old Stephen Andrews was not with us to day but his son stayed to the last and drank and smoaked tho' not of Age, with the best there. Paid Mr. Andrews for Carriage of Coal o. 5. 0. Paid Mr. Mann for Seed Wheat 3. Coomb and 2. Bshls. at 25^s/6^d, and Carr. of Coal 4. 10. 0. Paid Mr. Buck for Carriage of Coal o. 5. 0. Paid Mr. Bide-well for ditto o. 5. 0. Paid also to Ditto a poor Rate at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d, to Lady Day last past 1. 6. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paid also Mr. Emeris a poor Rate at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d, to Michaelmas last past 1. 3. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paid also Mr. Howlett a Church Rate at 2^d to Michaelmas last past o. 1. 4. Jonas Silvey paid me Tithe for Mr. Herring so that my whole Parishioners but Jno. Greaves which is only 10^s/6^d, paid me my Tithe dues. They were all highly pleased with the Frolic and all good humour and mirth.

Decem. 1, Wednesday. . . . We did not rise very early

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this morning as it was so late when we got to bed. We breakfasted quite at a fashionable Hour 11-o'clock. Mr. Custance sent us a fine Wild Duck and a Teal. I privately baptized a Child this Morning of Thos. Atterton Junr. by name, Henry.

Decem. 5, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston-Church. None from Weston House at Church. My Poor Parishioner Henry Nobbes still continues a most miserable object, just alive. Pray God Almighty release him out of his great misery. Him and Eliz. Atterton were again prayed for at Church.

Decem. 6, Monday. . . . Mrs. Custance spent a long Morning with us, she brought her work with her and stayed till 2. o'clock. Mrs. Custance made my Niece a Present of a Dunstable Straw Basket for Work with 2. Covers. I privately baptized a Child of Curzon's this Morning at my House, by name, Sarah.

Decem. 7, Tuesday. . . . It pleased Almighty God this morning about 7. o'clock to release my poor suffering Parishioner Henry Nobbs from his extreme Misery. Pray God grant that his long sufferings may be succeeded by an eternal Happiness in Heaven. My poor Parishioner also Eliz. Atterton was removed from this Life and I sincerely hope to a better, this morning near the above time. Her complaint, they say, proceeded from the heart. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge, called on me this morning by my desire, and I paid him a 48 Stone Bill for Flour for my House for this Year, 5. 7. 6.¹ To 7 Yards of purple Cotton for a morning

¹ Parson Woodforde's flour bill for the year is notable as indicating how much less bread was consumed in the eighteenth century in a normal middle-class household than to-day. On the other hand, the consumption of meat was enormous. The Sumner Committee on the Cost of Living

Gown of Mr. Aldridge who travels with a Cart, pd. o. 14. 0. To 7 Yards of white Cotton for a Lining, pd o. 8. 0. To $\frac{1}{2}$ a Yard of 10^s/o^d Cambrick of Do. pd. o. 5. 0.

Decem. 8, Wednesday. . . . Paid Charles Cary, Shoemaker, this Morn', 2. 8. 0. Paid Mr. Palmer my Malster this morning a Bill for Malt &c. for the last Year, 22. 18. 6. Paid Mr. Baker my Butcher this Morning a Bill for Meat for the last Year, 46. 5. 0. Paid Mr. Cantrell for Porter &c. last Year. 4. 13. 0. Poor old John Clarke departed this Life, and I hope for a better, this Morning. I walked over this Evening to my Neighbour John Clarke's, whom, as I heard was rather worse but I found him better than I expected to find him, but still very indifferent and very low. I gave him to buy Oatmeal for Water Gruel o. 1. 0 and when I got home I sent him over a Bottle of white Wine to put into his Gruel and likewise part of a cold rost Loin of Veal.

Decem. 9, Thursday. . . . Paid my Cooper, Mr. Ames, this Morn' his Bill, 1. 2. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. Brewed a Barrel of Table-Beer. About one o'clock took a Walk to Weston-Church and buried poor Henry Nobbs and Eliz. Atterton a great many People attended at their Funerals. Eliz. Atterton I buried first, the other Corpse not being brought, as soon as I had buried her, the

in their Report, 1918, p. 11, take the pre-war consumption of bread and flour for a working-class family of 5·6 persons as 32 lb. per week. Parson Woodforde's household consisted of himself and Nancy, two maid-servants, two men-servants, and a boy, i. e. seven persons. Yet his consumption of bread (baked at the parsonage) and flour works out at only 13 lb. a week. Even allowing for the different consumption of bread in a working-class and a middle-class family in the eighteenth century as well as now, the contrast between 1790 and to-day in the matter of bread consumption is very marked.

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other Corpse was brought to the Church-Yard Gate, and I went thro' the whole Service again after the first. Eliz. Atterton, was 56. Years old. Henry Nobbes, was only 25. Years old. Pray God they may be both happy in Heaven. May Almighty God everlastinglly reward poor Henry Nobbes for his very, very great Sufferings here. His poor aged Mother attended at the Funeral and came to see me after with Tears in her Eyes to thank me for what I had done for him. But O Lord ! not unto me but unto thy divine Goodness be ascribed all the Praise. To old Tom Carr, gave this Afternoon o. i. o.

Decem. 10, Friday. . . . About 1. o'clock took a Walk to Church and buried poor old John Clarke, aged 68. Yrs. Pray God he may be removed to a happier State. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent us a Dozen of the finest and largest red Herrings I ever saw. They were sent to him by Mr. Arnold of Lowestoff who married Miss Le Neve. A Mr. Herold of Nayland, Suffolk Married the other.

Decem. 11, Saturday. . . . Gave Nancy this morning a green silk damask Gown, that was formerly my poor Aunt Parrs. My Newspapers brought by Billy Bide-well to day. No tidings from the West-Country.

Decem. 12, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. Being a dry fair Day there was a large Congregation. Lent my Servant Man, Ben Leggatt, this Morning my Mare Phyllis to go to a Place called Crownthorpe on some particular Business of his own and he stayed out the whole day and was not returned home when I went to bed which was not till after one o'clock in the Morning. It made me and the whole Family very uneasy, thinking some

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Accident must have befallen him. It made me quite unhappy.

Decem. 13, Monday. . . . When I came down Stairs this Morning could hear no tidings of Ben at all, which still made me more uneasy. I then sent for Will^m Large and sent him on horseback after him. And about 2. o'clock Ben with Will^m Large returned and I thank God safe and well. Ben went Yesterday in the Afternoon with a Mr. Watson Steward to Sr. John Woods-house to Kimberly Hall, where having made too free with the Baronets strong Beer, fell off his Horse coming home and lost her, so that he walked about all the Night after her and did not find her till about Noon, she was found at Kimberly in a Stable of Mr. Hares, a boy happening to see and put her in there. I ordered Will^m Large to dine here and to have 2^s/0^d. Thank God ! that Matters turned out no worse. Windy and wet and my Study Chimney smoak[ed]. Nancy also had a Note from Mrs. Bodham to let us know that they with Miss Anne Donne from Norwich would dine with us on Wednesday next and sleep that Night. I was very indifferent all day long could eat but very little and not relish that, tho' we had a fine fat rost Goose for Dinner.

Decem. 14, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben this morning with a Note to Mr. Jeanes's to invite them to dinner to Morrow to meet Mr. and Mrs. Bodham and Miss Donne of Norwich. Sent Briton also with a Note to Mr. Du Quesne on the same Occasion. Received Notes from both. Mr. Jeanes will wait on us but not Mrs. Jeanes—Mr. Du Quesne being much indisposed and Dr. Priest of Reepham with three of his Children coming there to Morrow in their road home from Windham after a Son at School there, cannot.

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Decem. 15, Wednesday. . . . The Wind was exceeding high indeed in the Night, or rather very early this Morning, it was almost as high as the first of January 1779. I got up at about 3. o'clock this Morning but did not go out of my Bed-Chamber, and did not return to bed till 7. o'clock after or thereabout, The N.W. Wind very high and alarming during that whole time, had a little rest when I returned to bed (tho the Wind still rather high) till near 10. o'clock. I then got up and the Wind rose again and at 12. was as high as ever it was in the Night and greatly alarmed me again and continued so till after 2. in the Afternoon and then (blessed be God for it) it gradually abated. Both my Rooms below stairs smoaked a good deal this Morning, and expecting Company to dinner also it vexed me. And my Maid Betty Dade breaking likewise the only Tea China-Slop-Basin at breakfast or after in the Kitchen made me more fretful. May God Almighty protect those on the Sea who were exposed more immediately to such high Wind and may we not hear of any very great damage either by Sea or Land—And may all escape thro' the blessing of God as well as we have done. It shook our Rooms above Stairs and below. We received no Injury (thank God) whatever. About half past two o'clock this Afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Bodham with Miss Anne Donne of Norwich came to my House and they dined, supped and slept here. Soon after they came Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham came to us and he dined and spent the Afternoon with us, and after Tea and Coffee he returned home to his Wife. We had for Dinner a Couple of Chicken boiled and a Ham, the best part of a large Rump of Beef boiled, a plumb Pudding, a very fine fat Turkey rosted Tarts &c. We dined and supped in the best Parlour, neither

smoaked but little. After Tea we got to Quadrille, at which I won, o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham slept in our best Room—Miss Anne Donne with Nancy in the Attic's. Mr. Bodhams Coach Horses with Coachman returned home after staying a very little time. Mr. Bodham's Servant Lad, Thomas, stayed here and slept with my Servant Man, Briton. We gave our Company for Supper a rost Duck some roasted Potatoes, Artichokes, Red Herrings, hashed Turkey, Tarts &c. It was after 12. o'clock before I got to bed. The Wind (thank God) quite down by bed-time. Miss Anne Donne, second Daughter of Doctor Donne of Norwich,¹ is a very merry, agreeable, fashionable, young Lady but not handsome.

Decem. 18, Saturday. . . . I did not rise this Morning till near 11. o'clock, as I did not go to bed (expecting high Wind) till after 5. o'clock this morning. Nancy and the Maids sat up till 3. this Morning. A Mr. Holmes of Norwich, an entire stranger waited on me this morning being on foot to request my Interest for him at an Election for a Coroner for the County of Norfolk in the place of a Mr. Eaton lately deceased. He appeared to me to be a very proper Person for that Office and a Man of genteel Address and good Understanding. He officiated for Mr. Eaton during his illness. He was well dressed and a good-looking Man, about 50. Years of Age. I promised him my Interest as he seems to have some Claim for it. We had a great deal of Rain with Wind but the Wind not high. The Wind mostly E.N.E. Our Newspapers brought to day by Billy Bidewell.

Decem. 19, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mrs. Custance with

¹ See foot-note, p. 234, vol. ii.

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her three eldest Sons at Church, but not Mr. Custance. Nancy received a Letter by Mr. Custance's Servant from her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde, giving her a bad Account of Nancy's Mother, being quite deranged or crazy. Nancy very lately dreamt much of her. My poor Sister Pounsett also very indifferent. Their old trusty Servant Maid, Betty Troakes, late Betty Chrich had left them on Account of bad Health and gone to her Brother. She is thought to be in a decline and not likely to live long. She was formerly an old Servant of Mine at Ansford and a very good one. Pray God befriend her. Had a Note from Mr. Thorne just as I returned from Church with a Note of Invitation to dinner to Morrow on some London Lamb, but we sent word back that we were engaged. I churched 2. Women this morning at Church but being poor People returned their fees to them. Gave notice also of a Sacrament on Christmas-Day.

Decem. 21, Tuesday. . . . This being St. Thomas's Day I gave to the poor of my Parish at 6^d each, 1. 7. 6.

Decem. 22, Wednesday. . . . Had a Pigg killed this morning, Weight, 7 St. $\frac{1}{2}$. Nancy gave me a blue and White Hankerchief that her Brother William took out of a Spanish Ship in the last War, when he was in the Navy.

Decem. 23, Thursday. . . . I had not been to bed last Night one Hour before I got up again on Account of the Wind being so very high and continued so till after six in the Morning. I then laid down on the bed with all my Cloaths on and rested till after Nine this Morning but it was not sweet. About 5. this morning there was a very high Gale of Wind attended with strong Lightning I saw three large flashes of Lightning. I was very uncomfortable and uneasy all Night. Walked

about all the Night long above Stairs and below—No Candle or fire and very cold. The Moon gave however a very good light. The Wind came mostly from the West and N.W.[est]. Mrs. Custance with her three eldest Sons drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon by appointment. After Tea we played a sixpenny Pool of Commerce which Master George Custance won. They left us between 8. and 9. this Evening. Mr. Custance with old Mrs. Collyer gone to Scottow.

Decem. 25, Saturday and Christmas Day. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston Church being Christmas Day. Gave for an Offering, o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the Sacrament. Mr. Custance's two eldest Sons were at Church and during the administration of the H. Sacrament were in my Seat in the Chancel to see the whole Ceremony by Mrs. Custance's desire. My old Clerk J^s Smith, old Tom Cary, old Nat. Heavers, old John Peachman, and old Christ. Dunnell dined at my House on rost Beef and Plumb Pudding. I gave also to each to carry home to their Wives 1^s/0^d, o. 5. o. Sent old Tom Carr not being able to come as being ill, his Dinner, and with it, o. 1. o. I lighted my large Wax-Candle being Xmas Day during Tea-time this Afternoon for abt. an Hour. It was very mild thank God to day for this time of the Year tho' wet and very dirty walking. Nancy having herself new made the late green Silk Gown I gave her, wore it this Day for the 1st time.

Decem. 26, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs.

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Custance with their two eldest Sons at Church. I had a very tolerable Congregation at Church.

Decem. 28, Tuesday. . . . To my Chimney-Sweepers Son, Frank Holland for his Christmas Box as usual, gave, o. i. o. To Will^m Mason of Sparham who used to go about at Christmas with 10. Bells, and has this Year got a Bell-Harp, gave, o. i. 6. Nancy had a Letter this Evening from her Brother William at Gallhampton near C. Cary Somersett. Mr. Custances Servant brought it from Norwich. All Friends tolerably well in the Country, his Mother he says is crazy and calls herself Lady Woodforde. William talks in a very high Stile of his House and furniture and improvements he is still making.

Decem. 30, Thursday. . . . Mr. Priest of Reepham called here this morning on foot in his road to Mr. Du Quesne's, he eat some plumb Cake and drank some Rum and Water.

Anno Domini 1791.

January 1st 1791, Saturday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. We did not set up last Night to usher in the New Year, as it migh[t] be as well omitted and by the blessing of God hope that this Year may bring more pleasant Days than the last Year to me. Since our Somersett Friends left us in June last my Niece hath been almost daily making me uneasy by continually complaining of the dismal Life she leads at Weston Parsonage for want of being more out in Company and having more at home, tho' I enjoy no more than herself. It was not so in 1780. Billy Bidewell brought my Papers from Norwich, and am sorry to find by the

Papers that much damage and many Lives lost by the late violent Storm of Wind with most terrible Thunder and Lightning on Thursday Morn' December 23, 1790. It is thought by many that it was attended by a slight Shock of an Earthquake. St. Mary's Church Steeple in Oxford it was mentioned is so much injured by the Lightning, that it is apprehended it must be taken down. The Royal Family at Windsor were alarmed and it is said, arose at a very early hour. Pray God we may hear no bad News from Somersett. My Nephew William's Letter to his Sister was dated Wednesday Dec^{br} 22—The very Day before.

Jan^y 2, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morn' at Weston Church. None from Weston-House at Church this Morn'. For publishing Banns of Marriage between a John Lybock and Mary Kemp, recd. o. 2. 6. Gave my old Clerk J^s Smith for cleaning up the Church Yard Walk and making of it decent, o. 2. 0.

Jan^y 4, Tuesday. . . . John Piper by himself to day at my House, he breakfasted and dined here and had finished my [Fruit] Trees before 3. o'clock this Afternoon, eat some cold Meat for his Dinner and then went for Mattishall. Paid Jⁿ Piper for himself and Man at 1^s/o^d p^r day, o. 3. 0. For six young white Currant Trees pd. him, o. o. 9. Gave him to spend at the Inn where he slept, o. o. 6. And as he would have nothing for a young Vine of the most early white Grape, allowed, o. o. 3 Which made my reckoning with him just, o. 4. 6. The Barometer very low this Evening—28 = 12.

Jan^y 6, Thursday. . . . I sent a Note this morning by Ben to Mr. Du Quesne to enquire after him on hearing his being unwell, received an Answer back that he was still

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very unwell, attended with a nervous Affection. Sent Briton early this morning to Reepham for Yeast.

Jany 7, Friday. . . . I paid all my Servants their Annual Wages this Morning, viz.—To Ben. Leggatt 10. o. o. To Bretingham Scurl 8. o. o. To Elizabeth Dade 5. 5. o. To Anne Kaye 5. 5. o. To Billy Downing 1. Q^{rs} only, o. 10. 6.

Jany 8, Saturday. . . . Ben went early with my great Cart to Norwich. and carried in it 10. Coomb 2. Bshls. of Barley to Mr. Bloomes at the Duke's Palace about $\frac{1}{2}$ Guinea. The high Wind waked me about 2. o'clock this Morning and tho' I did not get up yet the Wind continued near the same, without my sleeping any more, at half past 8. got up, very much deranged for want of more sleep, the Wind still continuing the same, and is still very high at my writing this tho' past seven o'clock in the Evening. At 11. calm. Holland with his two Sons Franck and George, Chimney Sweepers, were here this Morning about four o'clock and swept my Study, Parlour, Kitchen and Back Kitchen, Study Chamber and Parlour Chamber Chimneys, and thank God recd. no hurt tho' the Wind was very high all the Time. I gave his youngest Son George a Xmas Box, o. 1. o. They all made a comfortable Dinner on cold Meat. Ben did not return till 5. o'clock this Evening. Mr. Bloome had my Barley upon honour, no price sent back, as he always gives me as much as any. He brought back $\frac{1}{2}$ Chldrn of Coal from Mr. Bloome. Nancy sent a long Letter by him to her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde. No Letters for us. No News I hope recd. is better for us.

Jany. 10, Monday. . . . Nancy's Pigg killed, Weight, 9. St. 6. lb. worth to her at 3/6 per Stone, 1. 13. o. I settled Accounts with my Niece A. M. W. and paid

her in ready Cash on balance, 9. o. o this morning, which with many things given her paid for her by me, amounted to, 15. 12. o since this time twelvemonth. Sent Briton over to Mr. Du Quesnes to enquire after him, this morning, whom on return acquainted us that he was rather worse than better. His nights are very restless.

Jany 11, Tuesday. . . . I did not sleep extraordinary well last night. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston-House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Family and Mr. Press Custance. Mr. Du Quesne was asked but not well enough to go. We dined from China and had for Dinner, a boiled Turkey with stewed Celary Sauce, Some white Soup, Saddle of Mutton rosted, Beef-Stake Pye, french Beans &c. Second Course Veal Collops with Mushrooms, a rost Chicken, Cheese-Cakes &c. &c. After Coffee and Tea we played a pool of Commerce which Mrs. Custance won and gave to Miss Custance. We returned home about 8. o'clock as we went in Mr. Custance's Coach. I asked Mr. Press Custance to dine with us on Saturday next to meet his Brother &c. but he was engaged at Norwich.

Jany. 15, Saturday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their eldest Sons, Hambleton, George and William, and Mr. Jeanes, dined and spent the Afternoon with us—Mr. Du Quesne was invited also, but could not be with us, being much indisposed. Mr. Jeanes left us soon after Coffee and Tea. After Mr. Jeanes was gone we played one six-penny Pool of Commerce, which Master William Custance won, which was o. 3. 6. I lost at it with much pleasure, o. o. 6. We had for Dinner, a Couple of very fine large Codlings boiled and Anchovy Sauce, Ham and Chicken, Peas

Soup, a Leg of Mutton boiled and Caper Sauce, with Garden Stuff, 2nd Course a very fine Turkey roasted, fryed Rabbit, a sweet batter-Pudding and Currant Jelly, with Mince Pies and Tartlets. Desert, Oranges, Almonds and Raisins, dried Apples &c. They left us between 8 and 9. very well pleased with their Entertainment—which gave us much pleasure—the dinner was all very well done.

Jany. 17, Monday. . . . It being a rough night of Wind last Night (tho' when I went to bed about 11. o'clock it was rather calm) I got up between 12. and one and stayed up till after 6. this morning, the Wind continuing very boisterous till then, from 6 or rather after I laid down on my bed, with all my Cloaths on till 9. this morning during that time had some broken Sleep. From 4. to 6. this morning I was in my Study and had got some light, having struck fire. All my Family besides continued in their beds. I was much jaded all day by having so little rest. Thank God we recd. no injury from the Wind and I hope all those escaped as well who were exposed to it. I have known the Wind much higher before than it turned out, was afraid it would have been so now. The Barometer was not very low. Recd. for three Pints of Butter, o. 2. 11.

Jany. 18, Tuesday. . . . At 11. o'clock this Morn' walked to Church and married John Lubbock and Mary Kemp by Banns, received for marrying them only, o. 2. 6 having recd. 2/6 before on publication of Banns. The Barometer being very low down to 28 = 10 at 11. at night I did not go to bed till after 12. expecting to have very high Wind in the night.

Jany. 19, Wednesday. . . . I did not get to bed till after 3. this morning. The Weather very calm all the whole night. The Thermometer nevertheless continuing all

the time very low down still to 28 = 10, also the same at noon this Day; much gentle Rain, but no Wind whatever scarce to be seen or heard. To my Servant Man, Ben, for things pd. o. 13. 7. To my Servant Man, Briton, for ditto pd. 1. 7. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. To my Servant Maid, Betty, for ditto, pd. o. 16. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Jany. 22, Saturday. . . . I privately named a Child of the Widow Nobbes this morning at my house by name Elizabeth. To a poor old infirm Man that came to my House this morning gave some Victuals and, o. o. 6. Sent poor Harry Clarke who is still very bad, by his Brother, some Victuals and some Money. My Cook Maid (Nanny Kaye) some few days ago gave my Niece notice of leaving her service at Lady Day next, as she intends then to enter into the marriage state. One Willm. Spraggs (Son of the Gardner whom I used to employ and who is now in Bridewell at Wyndham for stealing Wood from Mr. Brainthwaite at Taverham) not more than 20. Years of Age, is the Young Man that she is going to marry. I think she might do better. He also was with his Father in the above affair and was very near being taken at the time.

Jany. 24, Monday. . . . I had 2 Girls come to offer themselves this Morn' the first by name Hardy a very pretty Girl of Ringland, the other one of John Bakers Daughters, both under 20. N.B. neither would do having never been out.

Jany. 25, Tuesday. . . . Had very little Sleep all last Night, only abt. 3 Hours. A Girl from Swannington abt. 18. Years of Age came to offer herself as a Servant, but as she had never been out in Service, soon sent her away. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day. Mr. Jeanes made us a Morning Visit and during his being here Mr. Priest and Mr. Du Quesne came to us the

former on foot, the latter in his Chariot. I pressed them all three to take a family Dinner with us, which Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest did, but Mr. Jeanes expecting a Mr. Campbell to dine with him, could not. Whilst the above Company was here, a Child of Case's was brought to be named, which I did in my best Parlour and christned it by name Henry. Mr. Du Quesne looked tolerably well, but rather low. He was very pressing for us to go to Bath with him, but I told him that it was very inconvenient. And my Spirits not good enough for such a Journey. Such a Journey also must be attended with more than I could at present afford to expend. It was proposed to go in February and stay only one Month. Nancy was very much for it. When our Somersett Friends were here last Year I then requested the favour of Mr. Du Quesne to make one of our Party to Yarmouth as he was so well acquainted with that Place and many of the principal Families there, but he declined immediately on the first Proposal. Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest left us abt. 5. o'clock. Mr. Priest went home with Mr. Du Quesne. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg of Pork and a very good Peas Pudding, a very fine Turkey rosted with Mince Pies, Rasberry Puffs &c.

Jany. 27, Thursday. . . . One Bush of this Parish (whose Daughter's Banns were published last Sunday) came to my House this Evening to forbid the Banns, The Man being found out to be of very infamous Character.

Jany. 29, Saturday. . . . I privately baptized a Child of Richmond's this morning at my House, by name Daniel. Henry Clarke's Brother waited on me this Morn' to desire that I would go and pray by his Brother, which I did and found him very bad indeed, very helpless and scarce sensible with something of the

Thrush in his Throat and a very bad leg which smelt very strong as if it was mortified. On my return home I sent him some of a Neck of Mutton to make some broth for him as he cannot eat Solids, and likewise some money. I found Mr. Du Quesne at my House on my return as he was going home from Mr. Priests of Reepham, where he has been for 2. or 3. Days. I pressed him to dine with us but he would not. My Newspapers were brought by Billy Bidewell. Munhall was elected Coronor in the Room of the late Mr. Eaton. The Election however lasted 2 Days, began Wednesday last and finished Thursday. Mr. Leeke (commonly called St. John) supported by Lord Orford and Mr. Waller were the other Candidates.

Jany. 31, Monday. . . . Brown (whose Banns were forbid last Week by the Girl whose name is Bush) called on me this Morning and I returned him the half Crown that I recd. last Sunday Sennight by my Clerk for publishing the Banns that Day.

Feb. 1st, Tuesday. . . . The Morn' was fair and dry but Wind rather rough. Soon after noon the Weather very suddenly changed to hurricaneous, with Storms of Hail and Snow, and whilst we were at dinner, it all at once turned exceeding dark attended with a kind of Tornado with driving Snow, Hail and Rain. The Wind shook the House terribly and quite frightned us —as it did all the Afternoon and Night and continued so till three in the Morning, and all of us but the Boy sat up till that time. The Wind came from the N.W.N.—and very cold.

Feb. 2, Wednesday. . . . Tho' I did not get to bed till near four o'clock this Morning, yet from that Hour I thank God I had sweet and refreshing Sleep till 9. this Morn'—Much better than I had the Night before.

Thanks be to Almighty God also for preserving us from the dangers of last night, and that we received little or no damage from the Wind. It was said that there was Thunder and Lightning this Morning about 5. o'clock. The Wind was rough most of this day with many Storms of Hail and Snow and very cold.

Feb. 3, Thursday. . . . Had not so much Sleep last Night as before. Soon after breakfast I walked out with Ben and Briton to trace for Hares it having snowed in the Night, having walked about for 3. Hours without seeing a Hare returned home by 2. o'clock rather fatigued and much disappointed. My Men stayed out till dinner time but in vain.

Feb. 4, Friday. . . . Went to bed last Night in good time being rather tired, and thank God slept sound till seven o'clock this morning. I have not had so good a Night for a long, long time before and my Spirits this morning also much better. Received for 4. Pints of Butter at 10^d, 0. 3. 4.

Feb. 8, Tuesday. . . . The small-Pox in the Parish—Norton's Family in it, and one little Boy of theirs now dead in it.

Feb. 9, Wednesday. . . . Poor Henry Clarke died this morning. God be praised! that he is released from his Misery. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Mr. and Mrs. Custance drank Coffee and Tea with us in the Evening. After Tea we got to Cards, Loo, at which won, 0. 1. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mr. Du Quesne stayed with us till after 8. o'clock. We gave Mr. Du Quesne for Dinner, a boiled Neck of Mutton, a Tongue boiled and mashed Potatoes, a fine rost Turkey and mince Pies &c.

Feb. 10, Thursday. . . . To J^s Pegg this Morning pd. a Q^{rs} Land Tax 3. 0. 0. At 2. o'clock this Afternoon I

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took a Walk to Church and buried one Elizabeth Smith of the Parish of Lyng, aged 89 Years. Recd. for burying her, o. 5. o. At 4. o'clock also this Afternoon I walked again to Church and buried John Nortons Son William, who died of the small-pox. The Corpse was not carried into Church. His Father much grieved, he was 10 Yrs. old.

Feb. 12, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben very early to Norwich this Morning with my great Cart and in it 10. Coomb $\frac{1}{2}$ of grey Peas. I privately baptized a Child of Hammond Smith's this morning at my House by name Jane. Ben returned between 4. and 5. this Afternoon. Recd. of Ben for my Peas which he sold to Mr. Bloome at 13^s/6^d per Coomb 6. 10. o. No Letters from Somersett or elsewhere. Ben brought back half a Chldrn. of Coal.

Feb. 14, Monday. . . . To Children being Valentines day under 14. Years of Age and able to say 'good Morrow Valentine', in Number 40. at 1^d each, gave 3. 4. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston-House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us and we were brought back in Mr. Du Quesne's Chaise. After Tea, we got to Loo, neither won or lost. Nancy lost about 4. or five Shillings. We had for Dinner Cod and Oyster Sauce, a Fillet of Veal rosted, boiled Tongue, stewed Beef, Peas Soup and Mutton-Stakes. 2nd Course, a rost Chicken, Cheesecakes, Jelly-Custards &c.

Feb. 16, Wednesday. . . . Gave John Norton to carry home to his Wife (who is very ill by taking Mercury after the small-Pox) a very fine fat Chicken ready trussed.

Feb. 18, Friday. . . . Mr. Custance's Servant having been at Norwich brought us a Couple of Letters, one

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for Nancy from her Brother William, and one for me from my Niece Pounsett. Williams Wife brought to bed of a Son and Jenny Woodforde of a Daughter. My old Servant Maid Betty Chrich dead, and likewise Stephen Gay the Bath Newsman. Mr. James Clarke not very well, gone to Bath. Willm. Woodforde not a little proud of a Son and Heir, his Wife and Child as well as can be expected. Very little said of my Brother and Family.

Feb. 19, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben very early to Norwich with ten Coomb and two Bushels of Wheat to Mr. Bloomes. Ben returned about 5. o'clock this Afternoon. Mr. Bloome not being at home, Ben did not receive Cash for the Wheat, the Price not being thoroughly ascertained. We are to have however 25/- per Coomb if not more.

Feb. 20, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church—Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. I was rather out of temper this Aft. on Account of my Maid's (Nanny Kaye) Banns being not published this Afternoon by me, as she never mentioned it to me before I went to Church. Pray God ! forgive me.

Feb. 21, Monday. . . . To a little Boy (Edward) of one of Downings Girls by Mr. Barton late of this Parish—gave 0. 1. 0.—As he was assisting my Boy pulling Turnips. Had a Couple of Tubbs of Gin brought me this Evening about 8. o'clock—soon safely lodged.

Feb. 22, Tuesday. . . . To one Mary Shinkin of Lene-wade Bridge having lost a Cow very lately—gave 0. 2. 6. A Mary Noller of Felthorpe about 25. Years of Age and who lived with Major Lloyd one Year at Michaelmas last, came to offer here. She has a Mother and 7. or 8. Brothers and Sisters. I did not agree with

her, but If I did take her I would let her know in a Week, if she did not hear from me, then I should not take her—I did not like her Appearance being of a bold Masculine Cast—Neither her home or Family. Mrs. Custances two younger Sons, John and Neville now under inoculation for the Small-Pox.

Feb. 24, Thursday. . . . My Butcher took away my Calf this Morning, it is 8 Weeks old and but a poor one even now. It never would suck kindly, but very fond of Dirt.

Feb. 25, Friday. . . . At 10. o'clock this morning walked out with my Greyhounds a coursing and took my three Male Servants with me. We called at Billy Bidewells and he went with us with his Son John. It was a long time before we had sight of a Hare. At last however there were three put up, one of which we had a very good course with and killed. I did not return till near 3. o'clock this Afternoon much fatigued after walking so long a time. About 5. o'clock this Afternoon I privately baptized an Infant of Johnny Reeves by name—John. It was only born Yesterday but being ill was brought to my House to be named.

Feb. 27, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. None from Weston House at Church—It being a very cold, windy, and wet Day, as bad a Day almost and as cold, as any during all Winter. I published the Banns for the first time between my Maid (Nanny Kaye and Will^m Spraggs of Attlebridge. recd. for publishing the same o. 2. 6 which I gave to my Maid (Nanny) on my return from Church, and at the same time told her that I hoped she might repent not of what she was about to do. She is about 34. and he about 20. with an indifferent Character.

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March 1, Tuesday. . . . One Nanny Golding about 19.

Years of Age from Honingham came to offer herself as a Servant. I liked her very well but rather wish that she had been older, however I did not absolutely reject her, but [said] that I would make farther enquiry about her Character, and would let her know within a week if I should take her. She was Scullion-Girl at Honingham Hall when the Family was down there last Week. Sent poor old Tom Carr being very ill some cold Victuals, some money, and a Bottle of Red-Port.

Mar. 2, Wednesday. . . . Dr. Thorne called here this morning and stayed near an Hour with us. He had been to see Mr. Howlett who is not well, owing to his making too free lately. Recd. for 4. Pints of Butter to day. o. 3. o.

Mar. 3, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Buck sent us a Basket of Apples by her Daughter. Sent Ben to Honingham this Afternoon to inform the Maid that came to offer on Tuesday that I would take her at Lady Day on trial.

Mar. 5, Saturday. . . . After breakfast I walked out a coursing and Nancy went out with us in the little Cart with Briton. We had not been out long before we started a Hare near Billy Bidewells in a large Field towards the Brakes and had a very fine Course indeed but she got away. I first saw her and Nancy had a very good View of the Course. No other Hare seen after, but a Rabbit was killed. I drove Nancy home on our return. Billy Bidewells 2 Sons—John and Charles being out with my People with their Dog Rouser, dined with our Folks in the Kitchen, being much tired. Mr. Jeanes called at my House whilst we were out. Mr. Cary brought our Papers from Norwich. No Letters.

Mar. 6, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and churched a Woman this Afternoon at Weston Church. The woman being poor returned the fee to her—Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church, as was also my Niece, it being a fine Day and good walking. A young Sow of mine had for her first Litter—7. Piggs.

Mar. 7, Monday. . . . Washing Week at our House and a fine Day. The small-Pox spreads much in the Parish. Abigail Roberts's Husband was very bad in it in the natural way, who was supposed to have had it before and which he thought also. His Children are inoculated by Johnny Reeve, as are also Richmonds Children near me. It is a pity that all the Poor in the Parish were not inoculated also. I am entirely for it.¹

Mar. 8, Tuesday. . . . Gave poor Roberts one of my old Shirts to put on in the small-Pox—His, poor Fellow, being so extremely coarse and rough, that his having the small-Pox so very full, his coarse Shirt makes it very painful to him. I sent his Family a Basket of Apples and some black Currant Robb. There are many, many People in the Parish yet [who] have never had the Small-pox. Pray God all may do well that have it or shall have it. Went this Afternoon and saw poor old John Peachman Who is very lame, found him unable to walk and having no relief from the Parish gave him money. Called also at Tom Carys Shop and left some money for Roberts's Familys Use for such useful things as they might want and they have. Recd. for 4 Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ Butter, at 9^d, o. 3. 4. Lady Durrant at Weston House.

Mar. 9, Wednesday. . . . Henry Case of this Parish who lately lost a Cow came to my House this morning with a Petition to give him something towards buying

¹ See pp. 40-1 and 76-7, vol. i, for some remarks on Inoculation.

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another, as he was a Parishioner and a Tenant of mine for some Glebe Land, and having also a Wife and many Children and keeping an aged Mother, I gave him towards the same o. 10. 6. Had a Note this Evening from Mr. and Mrs. Custance requesting our Company to Dinner to Morrow at Weston House to meet Lady Durrant &c. I sent a Note back that we would wait on them. Mr. Custance's Groom with three of Lady Durrants Servant Men¹ came with the above Note.

Mar. 10, Thursday. . . . Mr. Jeanes called here this morning and stayed about an Hour, but Nancy being dressing would not make her appearance. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Durrant, Old Mrs. Collyer and Mr. Press Custance. After Coffee we all got to Loo limited to half a Crown. I lost at it o. 6. o. Nancy won three Shillings. We went and returned in Mr. Custances Coach. My right Eye-lid very much swelled and inflamed having a Stionic on it, very painful all day.

Mar. 11, Friday. . . . Mem. The Stionic on my right Eye-lid still swelled and inflamed very much. As it is commonly said that the Eye-lid being rubbed by the tail of a black Cat would do it much good if not entirely cure it, and having a black Cat, a little before dinner I made a trial of it, and very soon after dinner I found my Eye-lid much abated of the swelling and almost free from Pain. I cannot therefore but conclude it to be of the greatest service to a Stionic on the Eye-lid. Any other Cats Tail may have the above effect in all probability—but I did my Eye-lid with my own black Tom Cat's Tail. Recd. for 2. Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ of Butter at 9^d o. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. Lady Durrant and old Mrs.

¹ See Introduction.

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Collyer leave Weston to day. The latter is breaking up very fast.

Mar. 12, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben very early this morning with ten Coomb of Wheat, bare measure, to Mr. Bloome's. He returned about 5. this Afternoon bringing back half a Chldrn of Coal from Mr. Bloome's. My Wheat was sold for £1. 6^s. 0^d. per Coomb to Mr. Bloome, for which he stands indebted to me. Mr. Townshend's Gamekeeper, John Hunt, brought me a nice spaniel bitch Puppey this Afternoon which he saved for me. Gave John 0. 2. 6. The small Pox in almost every Part of the Parish. My Eye much better, thank God for it.

Mar. 13, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. Poor John Roberts very bad in the small-Pox. My Eye Lid still rather inflamed.

Mar. 14, Monday. . . . Poor John Roberts died this Morning' abt. 4. o'clock of the small-Pox which he had very bad and they were upon the turn. He has left a Wife and four small Children to the Parish. Mrs. Custance made us an early Afternoon Visit but could not stay to drink Tea with us. She came in Sr. John Fenn's Carriage, Their Coach being lent to Sr. John Fenn, to attend on him at the Assizes at Thetford, he being High Sheriff.¹ My Eye Lid still poorly.

Mar. 15, Tuesday. . . . My right Eye again, that is, its Eye-lid much inflamed again and rather painful. I put on a plaistor to it this morning, but in the Aft. took it off again, as I perceived no good from it. I buried poor John Roberts this Afternoon about 5. o'clock, aged about 35. Yrs.

¹ See foot-note, pp. 311-12, vol. ii, for Sir John Fenn, discoverer of the Paston Letters.

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Mar. 16, Wednesday. . . . My Eye-lid is I think rather better than it was, I bathed it with warm milk and Water last Night. I took a little Rhubarb going to bed to night. My Eye-lid about Noon rather worse owing perhaps to the warm Milk and Water, therefore just before Dinner I washed it well with cold Water and in the Evening appeared much better for it. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 9^d per Pint o. 2. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$. Mr. Custance came (walking) to my House about six o'clock this Evening, he found us walking in the Garden, he drank Tea with us and left us about 7. o'clock. He gave me a Guinea to pay for the Inoculation of Harry Dunnells Children 6. in Number, which was extremely kind and good of him—The Parish refusing to pay for the same, tho' at the same time they agreed to the inoculating Case's Family and have had it done, tho' a Farmer and better off. All Mr. Custances Actions to the poor assimilate with the above, every one of them generous and charitable to the highest. Mrs. Custance just the same. Pray God ! they may both long enjoy Health and Life, and blessings from above daily attend them. I wrote a Note this Evening to Mr. Thorne to desire that he would come to Weston to Morrow and inoculate Harry Dunnells 6. Children. I gave the Note to Harry Dunnell for one of his Children to carry it very early to Morrow Morn' to Mattishall to Mr. Thorne before he goes out.

Mar. 17, Thursday. . . . At Mr. Cary's for 3. oz. of Snuff pd. o. o. 6. To a Sieve Maker of Reepham by name Massingham for mending a Corn-Fan pd. o. 2. o. To Ditto for putting a new Bottom to a Corn Ruddle pd. o. 2. 6. To Do. for putting a new Bottom to a small Sieve for Oats for the Horses pd. o. o. 8. To Do. for putting on a Handle to a large Basket for

Linnen at Washing time pd. o. o. 4 besides giving him his board during the time. Upon the whole I think it an exorbitant charge. Mr. Thorne came over about Noon and he inoculated Harry Dunnells 6. Children and afterwards called at my House and chatted wth. us. My Eye-lid much better to day, washed it well with cold Water this Morning. Mr. Thorne recommended the same to me when here.

Mar. 18, Friday. . . . After breakfast I drove Nancy in my little Cart to Mr. Jeanes's, stayed there about 1. Hour and half with Mrs. Jeanes and a Miss St. John. Mr. Jeanes was riding out but just as we were coming away Mr. Jeanes returned which detained us about a Q^r of an Hour longer. It was after 3. before we got home. For having my Whip mended at Lenewade, pd. o. o. 1. Mrs. Custance drank Tea, and supped with us and stayed till near 10. o'clock. Mr. Custance gone this morning to the Assizes at Thetford. I buried a poor Infant of Henry Bakers this Even' a Girl, who died in the Small-Pox, aged 1. Year. The poor Infant had the confluent Small-pox, besides having at the same time the hooping-Cough, and also cutting teeth, her Name was Anne. Pray God! that her great sufferings during so short a period of Life, may now be eternally rewarded. Mrs. Custance never supped with us before. We had for supper, some poached Eggs, some slices of cold rost Beef, ditto of cold boiled Leg of Mutton, Rasberry Puffs, Tartlets, rosted Apples and Cheese. Mrs. Custance supped on the cold rost Beef. Drank some Bottled-Porter and one Glass of Sherry. My Eye-Lid much better indeed to day by often patting it with cold Water.

Mar. 19, Saturday. . . . I privately baptized at my House this morning a Child of Henry Dunnell's, by name,

Anne. Made a hot bed for Cucumbers for the first time. Mrs. Custance sent us a brace of Snipes this Morning. My Eye-lid almost entirely well (thank God) to day. Billy Bidewell brought my News from Norwich. There being such a Plenty of Turnips this Year at Weston and in most parts of Norfolk, and likewise remarkably fine, and the Winter turning out, also so remarkably mild, that most of them are now given away only to feed them off, and many even are at a loss to find People to accept of that, I gave an Acre to Mr. Mann on his feeding them with Sheep, which he accepted of.

Mar. 20, Sunday. . . . The first thing almost that I heard this Morn' was the Death of John Greaves, my Carpenter, a very inoffensive good-kind of a young Man as any in my Parish, married about 2. Years or more ago, to a Servant Maid of Mrs. Lombe's, a good kind of a young Woman, and lived very happy together and daily getting up in the World. Pray God comfort her and assist her in this Day of her great distress, and may thy good Providence protect her and her Fatherless Child, and likewise give her a safe and happy deliverance of another Child with which she expects to be brought to bed almost every hour. Defend her O Lord from the small-Pox in this time of her great necessity and trouble if it be thy good pleasure. The small-Pox being almost at present in every part of the Parish by inoculation¹ etc—Poor John Greaves was very suddenly taken of. He had been ill but a few Days, but in a very dangerous Disorder; called the Peripneumony. Mr. Thorne was sent for and attended him, but I am afraid he was not sent for soon enough. I had not the most distant Idea that he was in such

¹ See pp. 40-1 and 76-7, vol. i.

danger as it turned out. He was a Man well respected by all that knew him. I am sincerely sorry for him and heartily pity his poor Widow. Pray God ! befriend her and support her. I read Prayers and Preached and churched a Woman this Afternoon at Weston Church. Being a poor Woman I took nothing for churching her. None from Weston House at Church to day. We had almost all Day some falling of Rain.

Mar. 21, Monday. . . . Mr. Symonds of Reepham, Watchmaker, was at my house to day and cleaned my upper Clock and he dined with our Folks in Kitchen. Mr. Fo[r]ster of Lenewade Bridge called on me this Morning and as he lately purchased the College-Land I paid him a Years Rent to Michaelmas last 16. o. o. Recd. for Butter to day at 9^d per Pint o. 2. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. Mr. Pyle of Hockering came to me this morning and desired my Custom in the Place of poor John Greaves as a Carpenter.

Mar. 23, Wednesday. . . . I went to Church this Afternoon at 5. o'clock and buried poor John Greaves, aged 32. Yrs. Pray God ! he may be eternally happy. A great Number of People indeed attended at his Funeral. He was very much respected—And as inoffensive, quiet, good kind of Man as any belonging to my Parish. It was exceeding windy whilst I was at the grave, and what made me stay longer at it, as they were about to let the Corpse into the Grave one of the Leather Straps gave way by the thread with which it was joined being quite decayed, but luckily it slipped before the Corpse was moved far from the ground. A Rope was then sent for to a neighbouring House with which it was safely deposited in the Ground after some little very little time being elapsed.

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Mar. 24, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Thorne of Mattishall made a long morning Visit to my Niece. They held a long Consultation in the Garden by themselves, of which I was totally a Stranger. Mr. Custance not returned home from the Assizes as yet, tho' the Assizes are over. It is rather supposed that he is gone to London.

Mar. 25, Friday. . . . Mr. Alldis who lately lived at Weston House called on us this morning and stayed an Hour with us. He eat a Biscuit and drank a Glass of Port Wine. He looked but poorly quite thin with an ugly Cough upon him. The City hurts him. He is come to spend a few Days at Weston House. As Nancy was walking up this Morning to Weston House being fine Weather to see Mrs. Custance, Mr. Custance being not yet home, met Mr. Alldis in the Field coming to our House, who acquainted her that Mrs. Custance was gone to Norwich to Mr. Donnes to consult with him about some of her Children who have at present the hooping Cough. Mrs. Custance very uneasy about them especially as Mr. Custance is from home and knows nothing of it—And is uncertain when Mr. Custance returns. It is supposed that it will be many Days before he returns.

Mar. 26, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich after News &c. this Morning. He returned about 3. o'clock this Afternoon. Mrs. Custance sent for Nancy this Morning to spend the Day with her, as Mr. Custance is not returned and is not expected [for] sometime and she spent most of the morning, dined, and spent the Afternoon at Weston House but returned in the Evening to Supper. Mrs. Custance Children bad in the hooping Cough. Miss Emily rather the worst at present. Mrs. Custance had a Letter to day from Mr. Custance dated from Ely where he made a Visit to Mr. Du Quesne

who is now there. Where Mr. Custance goes from thence he could not even say himself, it being very dubious. It is said by Mrs. Custance that he is out on a small Tour which he lately talked of. Nancy sent a Letter by Ben to her Brother Will^m. It turned out a very dull, cold, wet Day, but the Rain was gentle, continuing all Day. No Letters from the West or anywhere else.

Mar. 27, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached and churched a Woman this Morning at Weston-Church. I returned my churching Fee to the Woman being poor. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church. Mr. Custance not returned yet and Mrs. Custance very uneasy about her Children being ill. Mrs. Alldis was at Church and looked very poorly. Sent Ben in the Afternoon to Tuddenham to enquire after Mr. Du Quesne who is at Ely. His Servant Maid Betty England heard from him last Night and he is very well.

Mar. 28, Monday. . . . To Ben this Morn' for divers things pd. 1. 15. 8½. To Briton this Morn' for divers things pd. 0. 2. 9. Had a Pig killed this Morn' Weight 9 stone. Sent Briton up to Weston House this Morning to enquire after Mrs. Custance and Children. The Children near the same and Mrs. Custance was indifferent, being terribly alarmed in the middle of the Night, by Mr. Alldis being taken alarmingly ill in the Night—thought every minute that he must have died. Mr. Thorne was immediately sent for, who came directly, but when he saw him, he shook his Head, and said he could not long survive, his Lungs being so very materially and dangerously affected. The Dr. said that he might live three Months, but was even afraid that he might die within that time. Poor Mr. Alldis, a very worthy good kind of a Man, I am truly sorry for

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him, his Wife and Family. He had some temporary relief by bleeding &c. and is very sensible and says he shall die. He is to be removed to day to his Brother Johnson's near Norwich in a Post Chaise. His late living in Norwich and in a public Way, and in so low a part of the City as the Dove Tavern stands, have altogether drove him into his present bad and dangerous state of Health. It is a great Pity they ever left Weston House, but having a large Family, he did it for their Sakes.

Mar. 29, 1791, Tuesday. . . . About Noon took a Walk to Weston House and spent an hour with Mrs. Custance, her Children still bad in the hooping Cough and Mrs. Custance very anxious about them and the more so as Mr. Custance is not yet at home, and not knowing where to send after him. Mrs. Custance was much better than I expected to find her, all things considered, having her Children bad in the hooping Cough, poor Mr. Alldis being taken so alarming bad at her House, receiving also an Account that her Sister Lady Bacon had been exceeding ill and lastly, Mr. Custance from home.

Mar. 30, Wednesday. . . . I got up this Morning a little [before] six o'clock and at 7. got into my little Cart, being a very fine morning, and drove to Norwich taking Briton with me, got to Norwich about Nine, and stayed at Norwich, almost all the time on the foot till 3. in the Afternoon and then set of for home, rather fatigued, got home safe thank God between 5 and 6 and then dined on some pork Stakes and eat very hearty. Called on Mr. Martineau¹ on Mrs. Custance's Account respecting her Children. Went and saw Mr. and Mrs. Alldis, the former a very small better,

¹ See foot-note, p. 292, vol. i.

the latter very ill and unhappy. Pray God comfort them both and improve their health. Paid Mr. Priest for Wine &c. 22. 9. 0. Paid Mrs. Brewster for Tea &c. 6. 14. 6. Paid Mr. Sudbury for a Carpet 3. 5. 0. Paid Mr. Buckle, for Ironmongery 0. 12. 8. Paid Mr. Bacon for Almanacks &c. 0. 5. 10. Paid Mr. Steward, Attorney, 6. 7. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paid Mr. Manning, Brazier 0. 12. 0. Paid Beale, a Bill for Fish 0. 3. 9. Paid Ditto for Fish to day 0. 5. 8. Paid Baker for 2. Combs 0. 1. 0. Paid Mr. Jⁿ Priest for Rhubarb 2 oz $\frac{3}{4}$ —0. 6. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. At the Kings Head for Rum and Water pd. 0. 0. 3. For a Cheese Cake at Nutters pd. 0. 0. 2. Gave Watson at the Post Office, Xmas Gift 0. 2. 6. For Letters for Weston House pd. 0. 1. 3. As soon as I got home I sent Briton with the Letters and a note from me to Mrs. Custance. One of the Letters was from Mr. Custance dated from Northampton. Recd. for Butter to day at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d 0. 2. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Mar. 31, Thursday. . . . Mr. Custance not yet returned home. Mrs. Custance sent Nancy a Note this morning to let her know that she was very uneasy on Mr. Custance not being arrived. She sent a Servant to Lynn last Night immediately on receiving the Letter that I brought from him last Night, as he was supposed to be at Lynn as this Day.

April 1, Friday. . . . Mr. Thorne called on us this Morning. Mr. Custance not returned this Morning at 11 o'clock. Billy Bidewell gave me a fine Greyhound Dog by name Spring about 2. Years old. It was given first of all by Johnny Rose to his Cousin Mann, and Mr. Mann being unwilling to keep it gave it to Billy Bidewell, and he having a greyhound Puppey to bring up for his Landlord, Mr. Collison, was obliged to get rid of him, and so Spring came to me.

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April 2, Saturday. . . . Sent this Morning to Weston to enquire after them heard on Britons return, that Mr. Custance came home last Night. The hooping Cough rather better. My Newspapers brought to day by Billy Bidewell.

April 3, Sunday. . . . A visible Ecclipse of the Sun to day, and it being a very fair day, we saw it very plain it began by my Clock about 45 Minutes after 12 at Noon. The Sun was full half eclipsed at the middle of it. The Moon entered the Suns Disk at the right hand and ended towards the left. The Ecclipse ended about 3 in the Afternoon whilst I was at Church, as I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church this Afternoon. Miss Woodforde also at Church this Afternoon. I churched John Reeves's Wife this Afternoon at Church, but received no fee, none being offered. We expected that Mr. Jeanes would have dined with us, as we apprehended that he was to have done Duty at one of Mr. Du Quesnes Churches this Afternoon.

April 5, Tuesday. . . . Paid my Servant Maid Nanny Kaye this Morning being Lady Day (as she leaves my House either this Evening or to Morrow) paid her a Qrs. Wages—due this Day 1. 6. 6. She purposed being married to Morrow. To my Servant Maid Betty for things pd. o. 8. 8½. To my Servant Man, Briton for. Do. pd. o. 9. 1½. My New Maid Anne Golding, from Honingham came to my House this Evening upon trial. Nanny Kaye my old Maid, slept at my House to night.

April 6, Wednesday. . . . I walked to Church this Morning and married my late Maid, Anne Kaye, and Willm. Spraggs Junr. of Attlebridge, by Banns, I gave my fee

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which I received of the Man, to the Woman. The Man's Brother Andrew Spraggs was Father. Brewed a Barrel of Strong Beer.

April 7, Thursday. . . . Brewed again to Day for strong Beer. Mr. and Mrs. Custance drank Coffee and Tea with us this Evening, they sent word about five Minutes before they arrived. My new Maid seems to promise hitherto very well. If she continues to do so, shall keep her.

April 8, Friday. . . . My poor old Bay-Mare, Peggy, that I bought of my Brother John, 20 Years ago, was this morning shot by Mr. Townshend's Game-keeper, John Hutchins according to my Order, before I was come down Stairs. She was so very old, very lame, and so exceeding poor, that I thought it an Act of Charity to do as I did by her. She was dead in a Moment my Folks told me. I had her Skinned as I intend to have it tanned. Recd. for 2 pints of Butter at $8\frac{1}{2}$ d, o. 1. 5. Sherwood's Daughter and Cuppers Daughter that were inoculated by Johnny Reeves a fortnight ago or better are now seized with the small Pox in the natural way, the former likely to have it very full, the latter more favourable. Dr. Thorne saw them yesterday and pronounced it to be the Small Pox, tho' they were supposed to be out of it by being inoculated.

April 9, Saturday. . . . Dr. Thorne called here this morning and I paid him for inoculating 6 Children of Harry Dunnells at $2\frac{1}{2}$ /d per head o. 15. o by Mr. Custances desire out of the Guinea that Mr. Custance gave me for the same, and there being six Shillings left, I gave it to Harry Dunnells Wife this Evening, it being desired by Mr. Custance to give whatever remained to her. I paid the Doctor for his Journey over

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at first to inoculate them as I sent for him o. 4. o.
Billy Bidewells People brought my Newspapers.

April 11, Monday. . . . We have 24 Goslings already hatched from only 2 Geese. Another Goose is also hatching, the old grey Goose, but she being a very bad Sitter, had only 7 Eggs under her, how many she will have is very doubtful.

April 12, Tuesday. . . . After breakfast I walked out with my People a coursing with 3 Greyhounds, stayed out till after 2 o'clock and never saw a Hare. Gave Mr. Girlings Shepherd in Weston-Field this Evening, by name Chubbick, attending Mr. Girling's Sheep now feeding on my Turnips, o. i. o. Mrs. Custance made us a short Visit this Evening, but could not stay to Tea with us. N.B. Turnips this Year so plenty that People even offer Money to others to feed them off.

April 14, Thursday. . . . It being a very fine Morning I drove Nancy over to Mr. Du Quesnes in my little Cart and after staying with him about an Hour, Mr. Du Quesne returned home with us in his one Horse Chaise and took a family Dinner at Weston-Parsonage. We had for Dinner some boiled Pork, a small Piece of Beef boiled, some hash-Mutton, cold roasted Surloin of Beef and a sweet batter Pudding with red Currant Jelly. Mr. Du Quesne eat very hearty of the Dinner. He drank Tea with us and left us about 7 o'clock this Evening. Recd. for Butter this Aft. at 8^d o. 3. o.

April 15, Friday. . . . Quite a Summer's Day to day. All Nature gay. Turnips quite a dead Load upon the Land. Many are obliged to throw them into Ditches &c. I am obliged to carry many off from Carys Close.

April 16, Saturday. . . . Mr. Cary brought my News &c.

from Norwich. A Reward of 100 Pound offered on one of the London Papers for apprehending one Richard Perry (eldest Son of John Perry that formerly kept Ansford Inn) for running away with a Miss Clarke (about 14 Years of Age) from a boarding School at Bristol. Her fortune great £6000 per Annum.

April 18, Monday. . . . Mr. Bodham sent over his Servant this morning to beg a few Cucumber Plants. I sent him back three Plants, being all I could spare. Nancy had a Note from Mrs. B[odham] which she answered. Lent Betty to pay Neighbour Heavers for 11 Spring Chicken for me, she having but little Silver o. 2. 6. Mrs. Custance made us a Visit this Evening as we were going to Tea and she drank one Dish with us and went away about 7 o'clock.

April 19, Tuesday. . . . About 11 o'clock this Morning Mr. Priest of Reepham with his Eldest Daughter called here in their Chariot, and Mr. Priest left Miss Priest to spend the Day with Nancy, he going to dine with Mr. Du Quesne and call here in the Evening on his return home for Miss P.[riest.] Bagshawe called here this Morning with his Cart and I bought of him a pair of large good Blanketts for which I paid him o. 18. o. Paid him also for a Pair of Stockings o. 4. o. Paid him also for 4 Skains of Silk o. o. 6. Miss Priest dined and spent the Aft. with us, Mr. Priest drank Tea this Aft. with us, and at 7. returned for home with his Daughter. I took half a very small Tea-Spoon of Ether in Water this Evening going to bed—not feeling very well.

April 22, Friday. . . . It being Good-Friday I walked to Church this morning at 11. o'clock and there read Prayers, but there was no Sermon. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church tho' it rained, I had but a small Congregation at Church. Mr. Custance sent us a

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nice Cucumber. Mr. Du Quesne sent me a Note just as we were going to Supper this Evening about our going to Norwich next Week, as we asked him some time back if he had an inclination to go with us to a Play at Norwich in the Easter Week, but as I had not heard anything from him lately I concluded his Intention was not to go, therefore had settled that Point, and had wrote to Raven at the King's Head to let a Chaise be at my House on Wednesday next by 3 in the Afternoon and also had wrote a Note to Mr. Priest Senr. of Norwich, to inform him that we would take a Family Dinner with them if agreeable and convenient on Thursday next. I sent an Answer to Mr. Du Quesnes by James who supped with our Folks in Kitchen. We eat no Meat all Day being Good-Friday at 4 in the Afternoon, we dined on Fritters chiefly, Nancy eat also 3. poached Eggs in ye Shell.

April 23, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich with my little Cart after News &c. &c. Briton returned about 4 o'clock. No Letters. Mr. Du Quesne came to us about 2. o'clock in his one Horse Chaise and partook of a Family Dinner with us and stayed till after Tea with us, left us about 7. this Evening. We had for Dinner a rosted Leg of Mutton and a green Apricot Tart, hot &c. Had a Note from Mr. Priest of Norwich in answer to mine sent to him, to day, desiring our Company on Wednesday to dinner, there being no Play on Thursday next, and to let Mr. Du Quesne know the same, Mr. D[u] Q[uesne] being here when Briton returned, turned out very well.

April 24, Easter-Day. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church being Easter Day. Mr. Custance at Church and at the Sacrament. Mrs. Custance not at Church

being rather indisposed. For an Offering at the Altar, I gave, o. 2. 6. Mr. Custance always gives the same as me. Never a finer Season known than the present. Lord make us truly thankful for the same.

April 25, Monday. . . . To my old Clerk, Js. Smith, Easter Gift, 2. 6. I privately baptized this Morning at my House an Infant of the Widow of the late Jⁿ Greaves a little Boy, by name, John. She was brought to bed Yesterday Morning and is as well as can be expected in her present Situation, tho' still very low on the Loss of her late Husband, who was a very good one to her.

April 27, Wednesday. . . . About 10 this morning one of Kings Head Chaises from Norwich came to my House by Order and at Noon we got into it and went to Norwich, got thither by 2 o'clock to Mr. Priest Senrs. in St. Giles's and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife and Mr. Du Quesne. After Tea and Coffee we all went to the Theatre and saw the Comic Opera of the Woodman, and the Modern Antiques or Merry Mourners, the Entertainment. The former was quite new and very pleasing and well performed, the latter is a new thing but very so, so. I walked to the Theatre and back to the Kings Head. It was most amazingly dark and wet this Evening, as we returned from the Theatre. Mr. Du Quesne, Mrs. Priest, and Nancy went in a Coach to and from the Theatre. For three Tickets to the Play for D[u] Quesne, Nancy and self, pd. o. 9. o. Mr. Du Quesne with Nancy and self supped and slept at the Kings Head in the Market-place. It was after 12. o'clock before we got to bed. We had for Dinner at Mr. Priests, about 3 lb of boiled Salmon rather stale and badly cooked, with nothing but plain butter with it,

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a very nice fore Quarter of Lamb rosted and well done and a small baked rice Pudding. We had for Supper at the Kings Head Pigeons rosted and Asparagus &c.
To the Norwich Chaise Driver o. 1. 6.

April 28, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head as did Nancy also. Mr. Du Quesne breakfasted with us, and at Noon returned home for Tuddenham. All the Morning I walked about Norwich paying Bills &c. till Dinner time 3 o'clock. Paid my Mercer, Mr. Smith a Bill of 5. 6. 0. Paid my Hatter, Wilmot, Ditto 2. 4. 6. To 14 Y^{rds} Russia Sheeting $\frac{5}{4}$ Wide of one Alex^{dr}. Thwaites in London Lane pd. 1. 15. 0 At 2^s/6^d per Yard. To 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ Yards of Russia Towelling at 8^d, o. 15. 0. To my Peruke-Maker, Brown for a Wig pd. 1. 1. 0. To Mr. Bloome my Coal-Merchant paid him for Coal for the last Year 12. 10. 6. Recd. of Mr. Bloome for Corn, 29. 17. 6. So that I recd. in Cash on balance, 17. 7. 0. To my Taylor H. Garland a Bill of 3. 8. 6. To my Breeches-Maker, Scott, pd. 1. 1. 0. We drank Tea in the Evening by appointment at Mrs. Francis's in Surrey Street with her and two other Middle aged Ladies. We went in a Coach and returned in the same. To Frank at the Kings Head, Barber there gave a Christmas Box o. 1. 0. Gave Forster, Taylor's Head Man—o. 1. 0. To rum and Water at Swan Inn St. Peters. o. o. 3. To other little odd Matters pd. and gave o. o. 6.

April 29, Friday. We breakfasted at the Kings Head and spent the Morning at Norwich. Recd. of Mr. Baker the Official, who lives in the Close, for signing my Name to a Paper sometime back brought me by Mr. Custance of his Children's Age, concerning the Tontine Act, at 1^s/0^d each Child, o. 7. 0. To 4

Crabbs of Beale, pd. o. 1.0. To 3 lb of Hair Powder of Jⁿ Priest o. 2.6. Went and saw Mr. and Mrs. Aldis at the Dove Tavern, the former much better than he was. To half of a Gloucester Cheese at Rumps in the Market Place at 6^d per lb, 9½ lb, o. 4.9. Mrs. Custance was Yesterday at the Kings Head going on to Sr. Edmd. Bacons, I called on her. Paid and gave at the Kings Head, 3.5.2.—Chaise to and from Norwich included likewise Mr. Du Quesnes Share included. About 1 o'clock we got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and went for Weston and about 3 o'clock got home (thank God) safe and well to Weston Parsonage where we dined, supped and slept, rather fatigued. The Driver dined and rested his Horses here. Gave the Driver when he went away o. 1.6.

May 1, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church and also christened a Child. None from Weston House at Church, had but a small Congregation being very wet. Dinner—Breast of Veal rosted.

[As from this date Parson Woodforde almost invariably makes a brief note of the daily dinner at the Parsonage. Hitherto he has simply set down the more succulent dinners provided for guests.]

May 3, Tuesday. . . . Saw the first Swallow this morning. Recd. for Butter this Morn' at 8^d per Pint o. 2.8. Old Roberson the Apparitor dined with our Folks in the Kitchen to day, he brought me notice of the Bishops primary Visitation being to be held at Norwich the 15 June next—Dr. George Horne¹ our present Bishop, an Oxford Man, and very lately President of Magdalen College in that University. I walked to Church this Afternoon and buried a Child of John

¹ See foot-note, p. 204, preceding.

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Reeves's aged 9 Weeks. Dinner to Day, Surloin of Beef roasted.

May 5, Thursday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne made us a morning Visit, going to dine at Mr. Jeanes's and to sleep at Mr. Priests. Recd. of my Butcher for Tallow 10 lb o. 2. 6. Dinner to day boiled beef and a Chicken roasted.

May 7, Saturday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne called here about Noon in his way home from Mr. Priest's of Reepham. I asked him to take a family Dinner with us, but he wanted to get home. He stayed about an hour with us. He paid me his quota of the Bill at the Kings Head when lately we met together at Norwich, in all, o. 15. 6. Dinner to day, boiled Calf's Head and Bacon and a broiled Calfs Heart. Mr. Cary brought our News Papers from Norwich.

May 9, Monday. . . . To my Servant Maid, Betty, for things pd. o. 16. 3. Mr. Jeanes made us a Morning Visit. Sent Mrs. Jeanes, for her little puny Daughter Charlotte who is now weaning, a Spring Chicken this Evening by Briton. Mr. Jeanes sent us back some very fine brown Dutch Lettuces. Had a Note, by way of Mr. Du Quesnes, from Mr. Priest of Norwich, acquainting us that they will dine with us Friday next. Very fine, pleasant, spring Weather to day. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted, Potatoes, Spinage and a Sallad.

May 11, Wednesday. . . . New-gravelled my large Front Walk. I found myself much better this morning having had a very good night of Sleep and taking a good dose of Rhubarb last Night. Dinner to Day Veal Collops, cold rost Lamb &c.

May 12, Thursday. . . . To James Pegg paid this Morning a Quarters Land Tax and half Years other Taxes to

Lady Day last, paid him in the whole 8. 10. 7*½*. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after fish for to Morrow, Maccarel if any ; having Company to dine with us to Morrow. He returned about Noon and brought with him some Cod Fish and a Couple of fine Lobsters. . . .

May 13, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne with Mr. and Mrs. Priest Senr. and their Son John Priest and his Wife, dined and spent the Afternoon with us to day and stayed till after 7 o'clock in the Evening with us. We had for Dinner Cod's Head and Shoulders with Lobster Sauce, Ham and 3 Chicken boiled, a fore qr. of Lamb rosted, a rich boiled plumb Pudding, Lobster cold, Gooseberry Pies &c. They came in a Norwich Coach to my House and returned home to Norwich after leaving us. They all slept at Mr. Du Quesne's last Night, had the Norwich Coach with them there, Howes's.

May 15, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. Nancy also walked to Church with me being fine. We had a very large Congregation at Church this Afternoon. Michael Andrews of Morton with his new Bride dressed smart, and more People with them were at Weston Church to day. Dinner to Day boiled Chicken and Leg of Mutton rosted.

May 17, Tuesday. . . . Busy all the morning in making some strong Beer-Wort out of a Peck of Malt to make a Diet drink for Nancy, recommended by Mr. Jeanes. . . .

May 19, Thursday. . . . Busy this morning in making a Diet Drink. Dinner to day boiled Pork and Cabbage and cold rost Mutton. Gooseberry-Fool for Supper to night.

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May 20, Friday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes made us a short Morning Visit, they came in their little Cart. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Lobb, Captain Laton and Lady, and Mr. Du Quesne. Nancy went and returned in Mr. Du Quesnes Chaise. I walked to Weston House and back. We stayed till after 9 o'clock by our Clock. After Tea, we got to Cards, Quadrille won o. i. o. We had for Dinner, boiled Maccarel, boiled Chicken and Tongue, a Saddle of Mutton rosted, Almond Soup, Lamb Stakes, Calf's Head, Patties and plumb Pudding. 2nd Course, Pigeons and Asparagus, Ducklings, Jelly in Orange Cases, Blamange, Cheesecakes &c.

May 21, Saturday. . . . Mr. Cary brought our News Papers and also a Letter from my Niece Pounsett and in it a ten Pound Bank Note from her Father. In the Letter also was mentioned the Death of Painter Clarke, and Mrs. Davison, also that Mr. Js. Clarke was grown childish like his late Father, my Nephew Js. White very dangerously ill at Shepton Mallett, and that Nancys Mother had dined at her Son William's at Gallhampton and they with her at Allhampton. My Sister Pounsett but indifferent. Mrs. Davison has left Mr. Pounsett one hundred Pounds and to his Mother fifty Pounds. David Maby building a grand House at Castle Cary. My Brother and all with him tolerably well.

May 23, Monday. . . . The two stunted Larch Firs that stood on two Hillocks near the Front-Door was begun to be taken down this Morning, the left hand one was down before Dinner, and the Alteration it made, was much for the better. Dinner to day Veal Collops, Shoulder Lamb rosted and a Gooseberry Pudding.

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May 30 Monday. . . . Mr. Hardy with his Nephew Js. Hardy, Masons with two Clerks, and Harry Dunnell, Carpenter, were busy at my House to day about my Kitchen Chimney which is in a bad dangerous Situation on the top, which must be taken down and rebuilt for about a Yard down. . . .

May 31, Tuesday. . . . This being Mattishall-Gaunt Day, gave Betty leave to go and see her Friends and stay out all Night. . . .

June 1, Wednesday. . . . My Kitchen Chimney finished and the Scaffolding struck this Morning and thank God ! no accident happened at all about it, after the Scaffold was taken down I gave the men to drink o. 1. 0. The Chimney is all the money the better and handsomer. Paid Harry Dunnell for his Work this Morning about 11 o'clock, having done with him o. 3. 6. I made it out as two Days work to him tho' but one and $\frac{1}{2}$.

June 2, Thursday. . . . Mr. Hardy and Nephew Js. Hardy begun building a new Cart-Shed, for a new little Pleasure Cart that I have bespoke at Norwich.

June 5, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and gave notice of a Sacrament on Sunday next being Whit-sunday, this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church as was Nancy. We had Green Peas for Supper this Evening being the first pulled this Season by us. Also cut the first Cucumber and gathered the first Strawberries.

June 6, Monday. . . . My Maid Nanny taken very ill this Evening abt ten o'clock, most violently oppressed with Wind in her Stomach, and continued so till near 12 then a small matter better, it kept us up late. I gave her Gin and Water, Rum and Water and last Ether, but neither of them or all together had any

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great effect upon her, but after she had vomited grew better. The Walls of my new Cart Shed finished this Afternoon.

June 7, Tuesday. . . . In the Afternoon we took a Walk to Weston House and there drank Coffee and Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and little Family, and at 8 we returned home to the Parsonage as we went. They desired us much to have their Coach home, Nancy was a little tired with her Walk but not much. Our Maid Nanny was very indifferent indeed this Morning, obliged to go to bed soon after breakfast. I gave her a Vomit about Noon and it kept down near an Hour and then it operated very briskly indeed, brought off a great Quantity of nasty green thick stuff from her Stomach. She was soon after better, but very much swelled in the face by reaching and very weak. She had a Glass of warm red Wine and Water with some Sugar and a bit of Toasted bread with it, after the Vomit had done operating, she kept her Bed all the Day after and in the Evening gave her a small Dose of Rhubarb with a little Ginger.

June 8, Wednesday. . . . Very busy all the morning in writing out a Terrier Copy of the Register &c. against the Bishops primary Visitation at Norwich June 15. . . .

June 12, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the H. Sacrament. After the Sacrament I christened a Child of Thos. Attertons, a Boy, it had been privately baptized before. At the Offertory at the Altar gave o. 2. 6. James Smith, my Clerk, dined with our Folks. Dinner to day, boiled Maccarel, Shoulder of Veal rosted, and a Gooseberry Pudding.

June 13, Monday. . . . Recd. of Stephen Andrews for a

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Copy of the Registers on Parchment to carry to the Bishops Visitation on Wednesday next at Norwich, o. 2. 6. He would have paid me for writing out a Copy of the Terrier, but did not then know what to charge for the same, as I did not recollect what I recd. for writing the last. When Mr. Andrews was gone, I looked into my Diary and in the summer of 1777, found that I recd. o. 10. 6. Smock Race &c. at the Heart this Afternoon being Whit-Monday.

June 14, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a long Morning Visit. Whilst Mr. Custance was here the Purse Club came here in Procession.¹ I gave them for encouragement as last Year, o. 10. 6.

June 15, Wednesday. I got up at six o'clock this morning, shaved, breakfasted, and between 7 and 8 set off in my little Cart and Briton with me, for Norwich, to attend at the Bishops primary Visitation. We got to Norwich safe and well thank God about 10 o'clock, ordered my Gown to be carried to my Taylors, there went and put it on and walked to the Cathedral, there met Mr. Priest of Reepham and we went into the Choir together, heard Divine Service and a Sermon on the Occasion preached by Dr. Harrington from these Words, 'Ye are the Salt of the Earth.'—very well, but delivered rather affectedly and conceitedly. After Sermon we all went into the Bishops Court and had our Names all called over, about 40. Clergy attended. The Chancellor Dr. Sandby attended for the Bishop. Dr. George Horne who is at Bath having been very ill lately. After the Court was adjourned we walked to the Maid's-Head Inn, where most of the Clergy with the Chancellor dined and spent the Afternoon, about 34 Clergy dined

¹ See foot-note, p. 192, preceding.

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together. For our Dinner we each paid o. 3. o. The Bishop gave the Wine at and after Dinner one Bottle between two Clergymen. The Chancellor left us about 5 o'clock, I very soon afterwards retired with Mr. Priest. There were but few Clergy that I knew. We had for Dinner, Maccarel, Veal, Mutton, Green Goose, Ducklings, Peas &c. &c. To Mr. Baker the Official for exhibiting my Letters of Orders &c. paid o. 6. o. To Mr. Utten, Secretary to the Bishop, for Procurations to the Bishop, paid, o. 2. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$. Drank Tea this Evening at Mr. Priest Senrs. with him, his Wife, and Mr. Priest of Reepham. I supped and slept at the Kings Head. Paid Mr. Bacon, for Books, a Bill of o. 12. 6. Had a hot Lobster for Supper, went to bed at 11 o'clock. To Mr. Priest Senr. of Norwich this Evening for an Iron-Cat, alias Trisram, which he bought lately at an Auction and was willing to part with, paid o. 3. 6.—The Ends and middle bright, the other parts painted black.

June 16, Thursday. I breakfasted at the Kings Head on Coffee. After breakfast walked about Norwich, shopping. Had but an indifferent Night of Sleep, it being a very rough Night, high Wind with heavy Rain. For a new fashioned puzzling Fan for Nancy at Los-worthys near the Close, pd. o. 2. o. To a small neat Walking Stick at Bakers pd. o. o. 6. Paid Mr. Jⁿ Priest for Druggs o. 6. o. At Bunns Gardens this Morning for Rum &c. o. o. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. At the Swan in St. Peters pd. o. o. 3. At Mr. Aldis's at the Dove Tavern for Wine pd. o. o. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Custance came to the King's Head about 11 o'clock this morning to meet their three Sons Hambleton, George and William on their return home from Palgrave School for their Summer Holidays. I saw Mrs. Custance and the

three young Gentlemen who looked extremely well and exactly as School-Boys should. Walked to Adams & Bacons to enquire about my new Pleasure Cart or Curriole and found that it was but just begun to my Disappointment. At 2. o'clock paid my Bill at the Kings Head and then set of in my little Cart for Weston. Paid and gave at the Kings Head abt. o. 8. 6. Got home thank God ! safe and well this Afternoon between 4 and 5 o'clock, where I dined, supped and slept—Nancy had but just dined.

June 20, Monday. . . . I drove Nancy this Morning in my little Cart to Mr. Jeanes's at Witchingham, stayed about an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes and Miss St. John, and returned home to Dinner. Mrs. Jeanes's Brother Springger was also at Mr. Jeanes's. Mr. Jeanes was gone to Norwich. We had not been much more than half an Hour at Mr. Jeanes's before Mr. and Mrs. Howman of Hockering on horseback called at Mr. Jeanes's for the first time of ever calling there, and spent half an Hour there, we came away before them, but they very soon overtook us. I must confess I dont much admire them. Dinner to Day, a fine Piece of boiled Beef, and a Suet Pudding, and Gooseberry Pye. Finished cutting Clover.

June 21, Tuesday. . . . I went over to Mr. Du Quesnes in my little Cart about 2. o'clock and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mr. Priest of Reepham, Mr. Jeanes, and his Brother in Law Mr. Springger. We had for Dinner some Maccarel, two boiled Chicken and a Pigg's Face, Peas and Beans, a fore Quarter of Lamb rosted, the Charter and Tarts. I returned to Weston by 8 o'clock. Recd. for 4 Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ of Butter at 8^d o. 3. o. Nancy stayed at home all Day no Ladies invited.

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June 24, Friday. . . . Sent Ben very early to Norwich this Morn' on Phyllis after Fish, he returned before 11 o'clock with 6 pair of fine, fresh Soals, but not very large sixpence per Pair, the whole, o. 3. o. Mr. Du Quesné, Mr. Priest of Reepham, Mr. Jeanes and his Brother in Law Mr. Springger dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner two Dishes of fryed Soals, Ham and 2 boiled Chicken, a Leg of Mutton rosted, a green Goose rosted, Peas and Beans, plain batter Pudding and Gooseberry Tarts. Ben brought Nancy a Letter from Somersett from her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde, wherein was mentioned the Death of my Sister White's Son James of Shepton Mallett. He died the 4 Inst. and was buried at Ansford the 8th.

June 25, Saturday. . . . To my Carpenters on raising my new Cart-Shed-Roof, it being customary, gave o. 1. o. To Tom Greaves for sawing 4 Days and $\frac{1}{2}$ pd. o. 14. o. To his Lad, a little Boy, by name Fleet, gave o. 1. o. News Papers brought by Billy Bidewell's Wife. Nancy busy in getting her mourning fit for to Morrow. No Letters from Norwich to day. Dinner to day Giblet Soup, cold rost Beef and boiled, and a rosted Chicken.

June 26, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with 5. Children at Church. Nancy at Church also being fine Weather. We put on Mourning to Day for our late Relation James White of Shepton Mallett. Dinner to Day, Breast of Veal rosted.

June 27, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes and Mr. Springger called at the bottom of our Garden this morning abt. 10 o'clock in their Journey into Hampshire but did not stay with us above 10 Minutes and

were off. Mrs. Jeanes and Mr. Springer with two Children were in Mr. Jeanes's close Chaise, and Mr. Jeanes was in his little low Cart. He had his grey Horse led by a Man. Hired Horses from Norwich to go in the Close Chaise. They were to call at Mr. Du Quesnes and have a Snap. They go to Attleborough, Thetford &c. to London. Mrs. Custance with her two eldest Sons, Hambleton and George spent an Hour with us this Afternoon. Counter-Revolution in France, the King, Queen and Dauphin have made their escape.¹ Dinner to day Hash-Mutton and a Suet Pudding &c.

June 29, Wednesday. . . . The three Eldest Master Custances made us a long morning Visit, eat some Gooseberry Fool &c. My Hay Stack thatched this Day—No Rain on it. Dinner to Day Beans and Bacon, and a green Goose rosted. There was a Tempest this Evening about 9 o'clock—We had not much of it thank God. About Reepham and Dalling it must have been very bad, as it mostly went that way, lasted till near 12 o'clock—that is, it lightened till that time. We did not go to bed till after 12 o'clock. The News of to day, is, that the French King and Queen &c. are retaken and carried back to Paris. I hope that it is not true, tho' on Lloyds Paper.²

¹ See foot-note following.

² Parson Woodforde in these entries for June 27 and 29 is referring to the famous flight to Varennes. Since Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette had been brought from Versailles to the Tuileries on Oct. 5–6, 1789 (see footnote, pp. 146 7, preceding) they had virtually been prisoners. Louis XVI had endorsed the entire remodelling of the Constitution carried out by the Assembly, including the confiscation of Church property and the Civil Constitution of the Clergy. He had even, on Dec. 26, 1790, sanctioned the decree which compelled the clergy to take the oath to the new Constitution, observing, however, 'at least, it is not for long.' Two-thirds of the clergy declined to take the oath, and were dispossessed. The king's

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July 1, Friday. . . . Mrs. Custance with her three eldest Sons and two Daughters spent the Afternoon with us. After Coffee and Tea we played a sixpenny Pool of Commerce and which I won, which was o. 3. 6. Hambleton Custance did not play Cards. Mr. Custance was gone to Sr. Edmund Bacons. They left us a little after 8 o'clock. Recd. of my Butcher to day for Tallow o. 3. 0.

position was impossible, and Mirabeau secretly advised him to escape and proclaim a moderate constitution, even at the risk of civil war. Mirabeau, however, wished him to go to some important provincial town, and not to rely on the forces of the Emperor Leopold—the queen's brother—now assembling on the frontier. The king preferred the frontier, and at midnight on June 20 he and the queen left the Tuilleries by a back-door, got into a hackney carriage, thence into a coach outside the city gates, and set out for Varennes *via* Chalons: at Varennes they would be met by their faithful general, the Marquis de Bouillé, and conducted to the fortress of Montmédy, near Luxemburg. Time was vital, as the news of the escape was bound to leak out in a few hours, and in fact did so. But Louis XVI shared with Parson Woodforde that inordinate regard for dinner which marks the eighteenth century. He stopped for two hours at Étages to dine. The delay was fatal. By the time, late at night on June 21, that Varennes was reached a messenger of the Assembly by hard galloping had just anticipated the Royal party. The king and queen were stopped, and brought back, Marie Antoinette's hair turning grey on the journey home, for to return to Paris was to approach the tomb. But their hour had not yet come, and for nearly a year the moderate party—with strong Royalist sympathies—represented by Lafayette and Dumouriez held the Jacobin party in check. Indeed, the tumults to which Parson Woodforde refers in his entry for July 29 were those (they took place on July 17 on the Champ de Mars) in which Lafayette with the National Guard dispersed Danton's demonstration, demanding Louis's dethronement. On Sept. 21, 1791, Louis XVI sanctioned the completed constitution which had at last been accomplished by the National Assembly. It should be added that in expressing a hope that the news of the king's recapture at Varennes was not true, Parson Woodforde represents popular feeling in England at the time. London was thrilled at the news of the king's escape, and had he reached safety the town would probably have been illuminated. (See Lord Acton's *Lectures on the French Revolution*, pp. 168–98, and Lecky's *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vi, p. 472.)

July 4, Monday. . . . Master George Custance called on us this morning and brought us an Invitation to day to dine at Weston House in a friendly manner. Mr. Stephen Andrews called on me this morning and paid me for writing out a Copy of the Terrier at the late Bishops primary Visitation o. 10. 6.

To my Servant Man, Ben, for divers things, pd. 17. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

To my Servant-Maid, Betty, for ditto, pd. 11. 2.

Paid Ben over his due for want of Silver o. 6.

We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and their little ones. We went and returned in their Coach. After Coffee and Tea we played Commerce, lost o. o. 6. Master George Custance got the Pool without going up. Just before we set of for Weston House a Tempest happened—Loud Thunder and vivid Lightning but thank God did not last long with us and did no damage, and I hope it did not anywhere.

July 5, Tuesday. . . . Had a printed Letter this Evening from G. Atwood Esq¹. Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, London, brought by Mr. Custances Servant from Norwich. It was a Letter respecting Mr. Custances Children they being put into the Tontine Act, late passed.² For a Certificate from me of their being

¹ George Atwood (1746–1807), sometime Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge, a distinguished mathematician, and Fellow of the Royal Society. Pitt listened to his lectures at Cambridge, admired him, and in 1784 gave him a sinecure worth £500 a year as one of the patent searchers of the Customs. ‘This, however,’ says his biographer in the *D.N.B.*, ‘was only an indirect mode of remunerating financial services of a very arduous kind, all the calculations connected with the revenue being executed by him until failing health forbade the intense application said to have been its cause.’ He was the inventor of ‘Atwood’s Machine’, and author of several scientific works.

² A Tontine (a word coined from the name of a Neapolitan banker, Lorenzo Tonti, who flourished in the middle of the seventeenth century)

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alive. Dinner to day Beans and Bacon and Shoulder Mutton rosted.

July 7, Thursday. . . At 9 this morning I went in my little old Cart to Norwich and Briton with me, got there by 11. thank God very well. Walked then immediately to the Cathedral, and heard a very good Sermon preached by a Dr. Cobb, Rector of Carleton St. Peter, very severe on Dr. Priestly¹ the Apostate if properly named—The Bishops primary Visitation this Day for the Deanery of Hingham &c. Mr. Du Quesne I saw there. Walked after to Adams & Bacon Coachmakers near St. Stephens Gates and paid them for a new little Curriole painted a deep Green and without Springs and in which I intend returning home, pd. 9. 9. 0. It is near the height of the old one but much lighter. Paid Beales a Bill for Fish o. 12. 3. Paid also to the same for 5 Pr. very small Soals, o. o. 9. Paid Mr. Lock, Timber Merchant, for 12 Deals 2. 11. 0.

is ‘a financial scheme by which the subscribers to a loan or common fund receive each an annuity during his life, which increases as their number is diminished by death, till the last survivor enjoys the whole income.’ A scheme of this kind was first introduced in France by Tonti, as a method of raising a government loan, and the practice spread to England (see *N.E.D.* under *Tontine*). The particular Tontine Act referred to by Parson Woodforde is presumably ‘An Act for converting certain Annuities, to be attended with the Benefit of Survivorship in Classes, established by an Act of the last Session of Parliament, into certain Annuities for an absolute Term of Years; and for enabling the Commissioners of the Treasury to nominate Lives for the Shares so converted’ (see *Statutes at Large*, 30 Geo. III, c. xlvi, also 29 Geo. III, c. xli). The loan raised by Pitt under this particular scheme was £1,002,500: under the Act of 1789 annuities falling in by death were to be divided among the survivors in the class, till the annuity for one share amounted to £1,000; under the Act of 1790 the subscriber could convert his investment into an absolute annuity for sixty-nine years and one-quarter (from Oct. 10, 1790) at £4 5s. for every £100 5s.

¹ See foot-note, pp. 287–9, following, on Dr. Priestley.

Paid Mr. Studwell a Bill for China &c., 1. 19. 6. At Mr. Scotts for a Pair of Gloves, pd. o. 2. 0. Called on the Priests, for a very small Bottle of Æther of John Priest, pd. o. o. 6. For a Glass of white-Wine at Mr. Aldis's, pd. o. o. 6. For Gingerbread Buttons at Blacks, pd. o. o. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. For one Pint of Porter, pd. o. o. 2. At about 5 o'clock got into my new Currie, and set off for Weston, and Briton with me, and got home by 7. this Evening, Cossey Road. I left my old little Cart at Norwich, shall send for it on Saturday next by Briton. My new Currie goes very easy indeed, like it much. I dined and supped all at one time to day, after I got home. Fryed Soals and cold green Goose for Dinner.

July 12, Tuesday. . . . At one o'clock I carried Nancy over to Mattishall to Mr. Bodhams in my new Currie, we got there a little after two and there we dined, supped and slept. A Master Dade about 15 from Yarmouth and Miss Anne Donne¹ a little Girl of the late Castres Donne about 9 were at Mr. Bodhams, and we saw no Body else either at Dinner, Tea or Supper. We found Mr. and Mrs. Bodham well and glad to see us. After Tea this Evening we got to Quadrille, won, o. 1. 6. Dinner to day Leg of Mutton boiled and Capers Sauce a Couple of Chicken rosted, Ham, Beans, Pudding, &c. Many were asked to Dinner but could not or would not come. Briton went with us and stayed there also all night.

July 13, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Bodhams at Mattishall. Nancy breakfasted, dined, supped and slept there again. Had little or no sleep all the whole night, having something of the Cramp and fearing more and more of it. I was very cold after I got to bed, and but spare of

¹ See foot-note, pp. 234-5, vol. ii.

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bed Cloaths, prevented my getting warm till after it was light. Weather also tho' the middle of July very cold and Fire in Mr. Bodhams Hall. Master Dade went off for Yarmouth before Dinner Briton drove him in my Curriple to Hockering there to take the Lynn Coach to Norwich. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Bodhams. After Tea we got to Whist, Mr. Bodham and Mr. Du Quesne against me and Nancy, we played two Rubbers, we got the first which was a Bumper, they never scoring one. They however got the second, but we had 3 Games. We each won of them as we played 6^d abt., o. i. o. For want of sleep last Night very much deranged me. Dinner to day, hashed Calfs Head, Mutton Stakes, Couple of Ducks rosted and Peas, Tarts &c. About 7. this Evening I got into my Curriple and went for Weston Parsonage, got home about 8. and there supped and slept. I left Nancy to spend a few Days with Mrs. Bodham. Gave Mr. Bodhams Lad, Thomas, coming away i. o.

July 14, Thursday. . . . I hope this Day will be attended with no bad Consequences, this being the Day that the French Revolution first took Place there last Year, and many Meetings advertised to be held this Day in London, Norwich &c. throughout this Kingdom to commemorate the above Revolution.¹ Pray God! con-

¹ The commemoration was of the fall of the Bastille on July 14, 1789 (see foot-note, pp. 124-5, preceding): Parson Woodforde's memory is momentarily at fault in thinking of the Revolution as beginning 'last Year'; or perhaps he is thinking of the festivities in France, on July 14, 1790, when the king swore fidelity to the new constitution. On the eve of that day Wordsworth—then a Cambridge undergraduate—landed at Calais with his friend Robert Jones, and saw

How bright a face is worn when joy of one
Is joy for tens of millions.

The poet also saw dances of liberty beneath the evening star. See *The*

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July 23, Saturday. . . . Much Injury done at Birmingham by the late Riots.

July 25, Monday. . . . Removed my Weather-Cock to

his pupils never being allowed 'a holiday on any consideration'. This is not surprising as Priestley's own mind was capable of ceaseless activity—profound theological speculations, learning of languages from Hebrew to German, scientific experiments, study of history, and practising on the flute. From 1767 to 1773 he was minister of Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds; during this period he developed Unitarian views, and made scientific experiments (in 1767 he produced his *History of Electricity*), exorcising a demon from a possessed woman by aid of an electrical machine! From 1773 to 1780 Priestley was librarian to Lord Shelburne and supervisor of his sons' education on a salary of £250 a year with a house at Calne, and rooms in Shelburne's London house, now Lansdowne House. It was at Calne that he made his great discovery of oxygen, so named by Lavoisier, but called by Priestley 'dephlogisticated air'. From 1780 to 1791 Priestley, who had an annuity of £150 a year from Lord Shelburne, was minister of the New Meeting, Birmingham. While at Birmingham he produced a large number of theological works, some of them of startling originality, and definitely identified himself with Unitarianism. It was presumably because of his unorthodox views on the life of Christ that Parson Woodforde speaks of him as 'the Apostate' (see entry for July 7, above). Priestley's views would be disconcerting to plain men at any time, and he himself metaphorically described them as of the order of gunpowder. Nevertheless, he believed in the Resurrection, and in man's immortality. Meanwhile, the French Revolution broke out, and was warmly welcomed by Priestley, and by numerous other Englishmen of liberal views, including in its early days Pitt himself. But as the Revolution developed—the attack on the Church, the coercion of the king, the confiscation of property—England became alarmed, and public opinion identified itself increasingly with the cause of Louis XVI. and of the dispossessed clergy. Not so Dr. Priestley, who saw (or thought he saw) in the ideas underlying the Revolution the redemption of mankind, and the reign of universal toleration. Hence, he and other persons of advanced views proposed to celebrate on July 14, 1791, the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille at a dinner in Birmingham. Warned privately not to attend he did not do so, but the mob were excited, and failing to find Dr. Priestley at the dinner, rushed to his house which they totally destroyed with precious manuscripts and scientific apparatus. Priestley escaped and fled to London, narrowly evading a mob at Tewkesbury by donning the wig and gown of a friendly Baptist minister, the Rev. Elisha Smith. Meanwhile the riots continued for several days at Birmingham.

another part of my Garden, as it looked so much like a May-Pole, now the Fir Trees are taken away. Harry Dunnells Wife very bad this Morning in Childbearing, obliged to send for a Doctor, and about half an Hour after Dr. Williams of Reepham had been with her, she was delivered of a Daughter. Dinner to day, Beans and Bacon, and a Fillett of Veal roasted.

July 28, Thursday. . . . The 3. eldest Master Custances went to School to day. Dinner to day Peas and Bacon and Leg Mutton roasted. Riots at Birmingham appeased by the Soldiers.

July 29, Friday. . . . Busy in painting my Greenhouse to day. Dinner to day Calf's Fry, Hash-Mutton and a Couple of Chicken roasted. Potatoes and Cauliflower. Great Tumults again in France, at Paris.¹ I was but indifferent all day rather low.

July 31, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church. Mr. and Mrs. Peachman at Church, but when they were at Church before, I know not, it is so long. . . .

'For three days', says Lecky, 'the houses of prominent Dissenters or democrats in Birmingham and its immediate neighbourhood were wrecked or burned. Many lives were lost, and . . . the rioters were often too intoxicated to escape from the flames they had kindled.' Special constables and Dragoons from Nottingham finally, on Monday the 18th, restored order. Dr. Priestley remained in London, taking a ministry in Hackney. In 1792 the French Convention made him a Citizen of France, but he did not leave England till 1794, and then he went to America where he lived till his death in 1804. Himself one of the greatest men of his age, he knew most men worth knowing, and we would give much to have been present at Lansdowne House in 1793-4 when he met Talleyrand there. (This note is based on the admirable life of Priestley by the Rev. Alex. Gordon in the *D.N.B.*, on Lord Fitzmaurice's *Life of Shelburne*, vol. i, pp. 427 and 433-7, and vol. ii, pp. 333-4, 383-4, and 390, and on Lecky's *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vi, pp. 473-4 and *passim*.)

¹ See foot-note, pp. 280-1, preceding.

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Aug. 2, Tuesday. . . . My Servant Maid Nanny Golding had another Fit this morning, screamed out most hideously and so loud that Ben heard her in a Field beyond the Cover, where he was hoeing Turnips. I never heard so frightful a Shriek or crying out. She continued in the fit near an Hour and then went to bed with a violent headache, and there lay all Day and night. It frightened us all. I must part with her at Michaelmas. Brewed a Barrell of Beer to day. Nancy recd. a Letter this Afternoon by Mr. Custance's Servant from her Brother Saml. who is just arrived in England from Italy, it was dated from Dover July 30, last Saturday, he was very well and going for London and from thence into Somersett, says nothing of coming here. Dinner to day rost Beef and Gooseberry Pye.

Aug. 4, Thursday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Du Quesne's at Tuddenham with him, Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham and their two Daughters, Miss Priest and Miss Sally Priest. At Coffee time we played at Quadrille, lost o. o. 6. We had for Dinner some boiled and fryed Soals, a Piece of rost Beef, something like Harrico Mutton; Bacon and Beans, Cheesecakes, rost Rabbitt, Peas, Charter and Tarts, and pickled Salmon. We got home between 8 and 9, as we went in my new little Curricle. They are all to dine with me to Morrow Sennight.

Aug. 6, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little old Cart after News and other things. Nancy sent two Letters by him, one to her Brother Sam at London and the other to Mrs. Jⁿ Woodforde. Briton returned about 4 o'clock, no Letters. The little old Cart broke down going to

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Norwich but being tied up however got thither and back again.

Aug. 7, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church, as was Nancy. Poor Love the Painter who lived with his Father at Norwich was buried Yesterday, he had been in a low way some time owing to his being very deaf, and one day last Week cut his Throat—pray God forgive him. He was a great Support to a very infirm and aged Father, and afraid that he might be reduced to want. He was a young Man of good Character and much respected, he used to be much at Weston House, and has painted some Rooms for me, and gilded my Weather Cock the last thing he did for me. I am sorry for him.

Aug. 8, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Bodham of Mattishall and with them a Miss Rolfe from Swaffham, dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We knew nothing of their coming till this morning at breakfast. The Note was desired to be sent to us last night. Harrison brought it. We were rather put to for a Dinner in so short a time however we did our best and gave them some Beans and Bacon, mince Veal, Neck of Mutton rosted cold Beef, Stake Pye and a Codlin Pudding. After, or rather at Coffee and Tea we got to Quadrille at which I lost at 2^d per Fish, o. 3. o. About 7 o'clock our Company left us. We spent a very agreeable day indeed. Miss Rolfe is about 25, not handsome but perfectly agreeable.

Aug. 9, Tuesday. . . . I measured my Oak in the Garden this morning and it has gained in one Year in Girt, one Inch. I drove Nancy in my new Curriicle this morning to Mr. Townshends at Honingham Hall, spent about an Hour there with Mrs. Townshend and Mrs. Cornwallis and returned home to dinner. Mr. Townshend

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not at home. Mrs. Townshend behaved very genteelly to us indeed.

Aug. 12, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham with their two Daughters Rebecca and Sally, dined and spent the Afternoon with us, and left us about 7. o'clock. We had for Dinner 3. boiled Chicken and a Piggs Face, a large Piece of boiled Beef, Windsor Beans, a Couple of Ducks rosted and Peas, Tarts and Custards. Mr. Du Quesne brought us a small Melon.

Aug. 14, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Sr Edmd. Bacon was at Church and the only Person in Mr. Custances Seat. There was a large Congregation at Church. Poor old Js. Smith my Clerk made a shocking hand of it in singing this Afternoon at Church, much laughed at. Dinner to day, Fillett of Veal rosted.

Aug. 17, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Taswell with Master Bacon and his Brother Nicolas came to my House this morning in Sr. Edmund Bacons little Curridge from Weston House and spent about half an Hour with us and then went towards Mr. Press Custance's. They had some Cake, Apricots and Milk and Water. I privately baptized a Child of John Baker Junrs. by name Thomas this morning at my House. Dinner to Day rosted Leg of Mutton and b[lack] Currant Tart. In the Evening took a Walk with Nancy to Weston-House and drank Coffee and Tea with Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Taswell. Mr. Custance and Sr. Edmund Bacon were at Norwich attending the Assizes there this week. Nancy very little fatigued with her walk this Even'. We returned home as we went about half past 8. It was very warm to day but not so hot as Yesterday.

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Aug. 19, Friday. . . . Sent 15. fine Apricots to Mr. Townshends at Honingham Hall by Briton. Sent 15. also by Betty to Weston House. Major Lloyd with his Eldest Daughter made us a morning Visit. The Major came with an Invitation from Mr. Dashwood of Cockley-Cley to my Nephew Sam. Woodforde whenever he comes into Norfolk, He having a Son abroad who was very intimate with Sam at Rome. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Sr. Edmd and Lady Bacon drank Coffee and Tea with us this Afternoon. After Tea we got to Cards, Loo, at which, lost o. 8. o. Nancy also lost five Shillings at Cards. They left us a little before eight o'clock.

Aug. 21, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and churched two Women this morning at Weston Church. Recd. for churching Mrs. Bush o. o. 6. Harry Dunnell's Wife was the other Woman, but having a large family I returned her my Fee. None of Mr. Custances Family at Church this Morn'. About 4 o'clock this Afternoon I walked again to Church and buried a little Girl of Mr. Alldis's whose name was Betty, aged 18 Months. Nancy walked to Church this morning being fine. Dinner to day a Neck of Veal rosted and Giblet Soup. Sow had 9 young Piggs.

Aug. 23, Tuesday. . . . Bought of Mr. Alldridge who goes about with a Cart in which he had many things to sell in the Muslin, Cotton, Stockings way a common Diaper Table Cloth 2 Yrds and $\frac{1}{2}$ square pd. him o. 10. o. To 12 Yards and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Holland at 2^s/0^d, pd. 1. 5. o. To 2 Pair of fine black and white Stockings small ribbs, woven, at 3^s/6^d, pd. o. 7. o. To 1. Pair of coarse White Lambs Wool Stockings knitted, fit for the Gout, paid, o. 3. o. Recd. for Butter to day at 9^d, o. 3. 9.

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Aug. 24. . . . A fine soft refreshing Rain (thank God) this morning. Rain was much wanted for Turnips &c. almost all the Ponds and Dykes very nearly dry. Afternoon was fair and hot and windy. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted and plumb Pudding. Shot a Rook this Morning to hang up in the Oat Field.

Aug. 26, Friday. . . . Fine Harvest Weather still continues, thank God! Finished shearing Wheat this Afternoon.

Aug. 27, Saturday. . . . It being a wet morning I sent Ben to Norwich on Phyllis after News &c. and also my Game Certificate. It was a most gracious, heavenly Rain this Morning. It cleared up at Noon, and was fair and very hot. Dinner to day, Gravey Soup, boiled Beef and hashed. Ben did not return till just 6 o'clock this Evening and then in Liquor which much displeased me. However he brought all things home safe. I let him have a 10£ Note to change for me at Norwich and to pay out of it for my Certificate. Paid for the Certificate, 3. 4. 0 an additional Duty of one Guinea being lately put.¹ Received of Ben of the remaining 10£, 6. 16. 0. He also brought me home three pair of very fine fresh Soals from Beale's 6 lb of them at 4^d per Pound, for which I owe Beale 2. Shillings. Betty went to bed early this Evening having a sore throat.

August 28, Sunday. . . . Betty very bad in a sore throat and I think of the putrid kind, gave her some black Currant Robb, and Jam of the same, with red Wine and Water to drink instead of Beer. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, had a large Congregation. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Custance at Church or Nancy. Sore throats have

¹ See foot-notes, pp. 144 and 188, preceding.

been frequent of late and still are. Dinner to day, fine Soals boiled and fryed and a fine Loin of Veal rosted. Betty not worse this Evening, rather ungain for her to be ill, as to Morrow is our washing.

Aug. 29, Monday. . . . Dinner to day, Cottage-Pye and rost Beef. Betty near the same as Yesterday, throat very painful, had no sleep all last Night. It is I think of the putrid kind of sore throat, therefore treated it as such, by giving her red-Wine and Water thrice a day and black Currant Robb and Jamm.—this Evening rather better.

Aug. 31, Wednesday. . . . Betty still better to day, but can eat very little. Very wet and windy from 10. in the Morning.

Sep. 2, Friday. . . . Had a brace of Partridges sent us from Weston House. Dinner to day a fine Leg of Mutton rosted and hot Apple Pye. French Beans and Potatoes. Betty a great deal better—Throat almost well.

Sep. 5, Monday. . . . A great deal of Rain fell during last Night. Dinner to day boiled Beef and a Suet Pudding. Mrs. Thorne called here this Morning in a one horse-Chaise, stayed about half an Hour and then went on for North-Repps near Cromer to her Cousin Barclays where she stays some Days. The Barclays are Quakers of very great fortunes live mostly in London, but generally at this Season of the Year come down from Town for the Benefit of Sea-bathing, and prefer Cromer.¹

¹ The Quaker family of Barclay appears to have been identified with Banking in London even before 1729, when their books begin. The chief eighteenth-century Barclay seems to have been David, who ‘is recorded to have received successively on Lord Mayor’s Day, at his house in Cheapside, Queen Anne, George I, George II, and George III’. In coming to

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Sep. 6, Tuesday. . . . We heard 6. loud reports of Guns firing this Evening between 7. and 8. o'clock. The Report seemed to come from Dereham side.

Sep. 7, Wednesday. . . . We were alarmed again this morning about 11 o'clock, by our Maid Nanny having another violent fit, screaming out most hideously. She went to bed soon and there stayed all Day and night.

Sep. 8, Thursday. . . . Nanny somewhat better this morning, but must part with her at Michaelmas, and am sorry for it—As she is a good servant and very active. It is a thousand Pitties that [s]he has Fits. Ben and Briton went out again this morning after Mushrooms and brought home a great many. Dinner to Day boiled Leg of Mutton and a green Goose roasted with Apple Sauce. N.B. The Leg of Mutton was so exceeding bad that we did not have it in the Parlour, neither could the People in Kitchen eat it, it must have been over-heated when it was killed, as it was killed only on Monday last. The neck also we had Yesterday was not good, the same Sheep. To Bush's Men, a largess, gave o. i. o. Gave Nanny some Assa-fœtida Drops in cold Water as she went to bed this Evening. Mr. Custance sent us a brace of Partridges.

Cromer the Barclays were following the relatively new fashion of sea-bathing which Cowper refers to in his *Retirement* published in 1782 :

' Your prudent grand-mamas, ye modern belles,
Content with Bristol, Bath and Tunbridge Wells,
When health required it would consent to roam,
Else more attached to pleasures found at home.
But now alike, gay widow, virgin, wife,
Ingenious to diversify dull life,
In coaches, chaises, caravans, and hoys,
Fly to the coast for daily, nightly joys,
And all, impatient of dry land, agree
With one consent to rush into the sea.—'

See F. G. Hilton Price's *Handbook of London Bankers*, pp. 9-13; A. S. Turberville's *English Men and Manners in the Eighteenth Century*, pp. 125-6; and Cowper's *Retirement*.



*Charles Townshend
created
Lord Bayning
Oct. 20. 1797*

CHARLES TOWNSHEND (1728-1810)
1st Baron Bayning of Foxley

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They are gone this morning to spend a few Days at Sr. Edmund Bacons at Raveningham.

Sep. 9, Friday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne's Housekeeper Betty England came to my House this Afternoon with a note from her Master, to let us know that if we are not engaged to Morrow in the Afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Townshend with himself wou[l]d drink Tea w[ith] us. Betty came over in a one Horse Chaise and drank Tea with us in the Study. To largess to Bucks Men, gave, o. i. o. Dinner to day a fine Piece of boiled Beef and hot Apple Pye. Briton had leave to go to Bidewells Harvest Frolick and stay out all night. Finished Harvest this Evening.

Sep. 10, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben to Norwich this Morn' after News &c. To Bidewells Men, a Largess, gave, o. i. o. To Peggs Men, ditto, do. o. i. o. To Cases Man ditto, do. o. i. o. Ben returned from Norwich about 4. this afternoon and brought me a Letter from my Niece Pounsett. She informs us that Nancy's Brother Sam is in Somersett and at his Brothers at Gallhampton. Also that James Clarke was thought to be so ill as not to survive long, in a very low way. Mr. and Mrs. Townshend with Mr. Du Quesne came to my House this Afternoon in a Coach and four and drank Coffee and Tea with us and stayed till after 8. o'clock this Evening. At Loo after Tea lost o. 5. o. Mr. Du Quesne who played bonum Securum lost, o. 9. 6. Mr. Townshend brought us 2 brace of Partridges. They seemed to be highly pleased and very cheerful.

Sep. 11, Sunday. . . . Dan Breeze brought me a Hare this morning which he caught in a Trap last Night in Mr. Custance's Plantations for which gave him, o. i. o by Betty. Mr. and Mrs. Custance being from home and do not come home till Thursday,

made him bring it here. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance not at Chutch, they being at Sr. Edmd. Bacons. Nancy walked to Church with me being fine Weather. Had a pretty full Congregation this Afternoon.

Sep. 12, Monday. . . . Gave my Servant-Maid, Nanny Golding, warning this Morning to leave my Service at Michaelmas next, on Account of her being subject to bad fits. I was sorry to do it, as she was or at least appeared to be, a very good Servant. I should have been glad to have kept her—if I could, but fits are dreadful, they are so very alarming and come on so suddenly. To Andrews's Men, a largess, gave, o. i. o. To Howletts Ditto, do. gave, o. i. o. To Pratts Ditto, do. gave, o. i. o. Dinner to day Veal Soup, Veal Colllops, and Bacon and a brace of Partridges rosted and Apple Dumplins.

Sep. 13, Tuesday. . . . After breakfast I walked out a coursing and took Ben, Briton, and my Boy Downing with me. I took my three Greyhounds, Fly, Snip and Spring, and two Spaniels, Spring and Carlo with me. We stayed out till two o'clock and coursed only one Hare which we killed. We saw no People out either shooting or coursing, but heard some Guns at a distance. Dinner to day, Giblet-Soup, fryed Beef and Potatoes, and a fine young Hare rosted. To Baker's Men, a Largess, gave o. i. o. To Dallydays Son (who lately lived with me) for bringing me two young live Hares, o. i. o. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 9^d, o. i. i^l.

Sep. 15, Thursday. . . . About Noon Mr. Du Quesne called here in his one-Horse Chaise and went with us to Reepham to Mr. Priests where we dined and spent the

Aft. I drove Nancy there and back in my new Curricles. We set of to return home about half past five o'clock and got home by seven, safe and well thank God for it. We left Mr. Du Quesne there to spend a Day or two. We dined with Mr. and Mrs. Priest, their 2 Daughters, Miss Priest and Miss Sally, Mr. Du Quesne, and Mr. and Mrs. Priest Senr. from Norwich. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, a Couple of rosted Chicken, a Couple of Ducks rosted, baked Pudding and Blamange. All upon the Table at the same time. To Girlings Men, a Largess, gave, o. i. o. To Peachman's Men Ditto, do, o. i. o.

Sep. 16, Friday. . . . A Hare being seen near my House by Ben I went out with my Dogs, found her, had a very fine Course and killed her. Dinner to day Jugged Hare, very good.

Sep. 17, Saturday. . . . Betty went Early this Morning to Norwich with Ben in my little old Cart after News and many other things. Betty went to Norwich to buy my two old Washer-women Mary Heavers and Nann Gooch a new Gown apiece which I intend giving to them. They returned home about 4 o'clock. Ben brought me home 2 pair of fine Soals. Dinner to-day a nice roasting Pigg. To Emery's Man, a largess, gave, o. i. o.

Sep. 18, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church but not Mrs. Mr. Townshend sent me this morning as a present a very fine french Duck and Drake, very large. Gave the Man that brought them, whose name was Stephen Meares, an Husbandman, o. i. o.

Sep. 20, Tuesday. . . . It being a fine Morning I took a walk with Nancy to Weston House and spent an Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Custance. Mr. Custance was

exceeding ill indeed, obliged to leave the Room thro' Pain—supposed to proceed from the Gravel, as it comes from the Loins. I never saw Mr. Custance look so bad in my Life he looked quite emaciated with pain. I hope to God that he will have some good advice and soon get better, it grieved me to see him. . . .

Sep. 21, Wednesday. . . . Sent to enquire after Mr. Custance this Morning had a very bad Night and still continues ill. Mr. Donne of Norwich was sent for this morning at six but was not yet arrived at Weston House. Dinner to day Veal Colllops and a roasting Pigg. Mr. Custances Complaint is the Gravel, made in the severe fit of it, bloody Water. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer.

Sep. 22, Thursday. . . . Mr. Custance had a good night of sleep and is somewhat better, but still very bad and at times in very excruciating pain. Mrs. Custance called here this morning and took Nancy with her to Mr. Townshends to make a morning Visit, stayed there an Hour and Nancy returned home to dinner. Paid Ben this Morning for things, o. 15. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paid Betty ditto for ditto. 1. 2. 1. N.B. In Betty's Bill was included for Stuff bought at Norwich to Make my two Washer-women (Mary Heavers and Nann Gooch) a Gown each which I promised to give them. . . .

Sep. 24, Saturday. . . . Mr. Custance so well as to go to Norwich to day. Dinner to day, boiled Calf's Head and Bacon and a rosted Duck, and an hot Apple Pye. Billy Bidewell brought my News-Papers from Norwich. Nancy had a Letter this Evening from her Brother Samuel at Stourhead, gives but a very indifferent [account] of his Mother at Allhampton. Mr. Custance's Servant brought it from Norwich.

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Sep. 25, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church and almost immediately after Service buried a little Girl of Ham Smith's who is supposed to die of the Hooping Cough—4 Years. Mrs. Custance at Church but not Mr. Custance. Nancy walked to Church being a fine Day. Mrs. Forster of Lenewade Bridge was at Weston Church and sat in my Seat in the Chancel w[ith] Nancy. Mr. Forster and Mr. Wade at Church and sat in Howletts Seat. I had a large Congregation at Church this Afternoon. Dinner to Day, a stewed Duck and Breast Veal rosted. Briton went to dine with his Aunt Peascod of Reepham.

Sep. 27, Tuesday. . . . We got up rather early this morning and at 8 o'clock, Nancy, myself, Betty and Briton, sat off for Norwich in our two little Curricles being a fine Morning, got there about 11. after being detained at Cossey Falcon by some Rain which made the Women quite wet, but they soon dried their things at the Inn at Cossey. The Rain did not continue long, paid at Cossey Inn, o. i. o. The Woman at the Inn behaved very civil. She is a married Woman, and Name Wilkinson, Gardner to Mr. Branthwaite of Taverham. Nancy and Betty went in my old Curridge with my Horse Punch, and Briton went with me in my new one with my Mare Jenny. When we came to Norwich we called first at Mr. Priests Senr. but they were both gone to Breccles on their Son's Richards Account. Afterwards we called on Mr. Jⁿ Priest and saw him and his Wife who behaved very civil. Mr. Jⁿ Priest having the Keys of his Father's Wine Vaults, I went and tested some Port Wine, and gave an Order for a Qr. of a Pipe to be bottled of by Saturday next, as I shall send for it that

day by Ben with my Cart. At Mr. Jⁿ Priests Shop, for 2 oz. Cinnamon, pd. 2. 6. At Do. for 2 oz. Cloves, pd. 2. 0. At Do. for 2 oz. Mace, pd., 4. 8. At Do. for 1 lb. Hair Powder, pd. 0. 10. In all paid at his Shop, 9. 6. At Studwells, China Man, pd. a Bill of 6. 10. At Beales, Fishmonger, pd. a Bill of 8.0. At Thwaites, Linen Draper in London Lane for 43 Yards of Russia Sheetin at 2^s/6^d pd. 5. 7. 6. At Buckles, for some Gun Flints, pd., 0. 0. 6. At Scotts, for a Pair of Gloves, pd, 0. 1. 4. At the Wool-Pocket in St. Giles's where our Curricles were put up, for a Glass of Wine pd. 0. 0. 3. Nancy and Betty went about Shopping by themselves, to Mrs. Brewster's &c. Saw Taswell on the Castle-Hill to day. About 3. o'clock this Afternoon we got into our Carriages and sat of for Weston, got home safe and well (thank God) soon after five. We called on our return at the Falcon Inn at Cossey where we halted in the Morning as they behaved civil to us and had a Tankard of Porter, having eat our Beef and Bread that we carried with us about a Mile on the Norwich Side of Cossey. We did not dine till after we returned and then had for Dinner some fryed Herrings and a brace of Partridges rosted. Instead of Supper we had some Tea and Toast. Very fine Weather on our return home. Mr. and Mrs. Custance gone to Lady Durrants to spend a few Days—Mr. Custance being finely. Mrs. Bodham with a Mrs. Dade and her Daughter came to our House during our absence and stayed about half an Hour, walked about our Garden and had some Cake and small Beer. Mrs. Dade leaves Mattishall to Morrow. We were rather fatigued by our excursion to day.

Octob. 1st, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning with my Great Cart to Norwich after a Quarter of

a Pipe of red Port from Mr. Priest's. He returned about four this Afternoon with the same and all safe. Dinner to Day Hash Mutton and a Damson Pudding.

Oct. 3, Monday. . . . About 11. this morning went over to Witchingham in my new Curricle (and being a very particular fine Day took Nancy with me), and spent an Hour or better at Mr. Jeanes's, and during my being at Witchingham I buried one Alice Coulsey an Infant for Mr. Jeanes. The Church not anything like finished repairing yet. We talked a good deal to Mr. Jeanes's Man William, and an old Woman who takes care of the House during their absence. William appears to be a very civil obliging Man, and the House is kept neat and clean by the Woman. Major Lloyd had been there in the Morning and just gone as we came. He heard very lately from Mr. Jeanes—Mrs. Jeanes but indifferent. This Day being appointed for the Petty Sessions at Reepham for hiring Servants, we met on our return a great many Lads and Lasses going there.¹ Gave my two

¹ The explanation of Parson Woodforde's entry here is to be found in a complication of legislative enactments. The local government of England was carried on by the Justices of the Peace, upon whose shoulders fell the responsibility of administering almost every law and proclamation relative to the Poor, to the regulation of corn prices, to roads, to the maintenance of order, to contracts of service between master and man, and a number of other matters. The actual fixing of wages both maximum and minimum under Acts of Elizabeth's and James I's reigns gradually fell into disuse in the eighteenth century. On the other hand, an Act of 1747 charged the Justices with the settlement of any disputes as to wages, and contracts of service. Now an Act of 1691 made permanent settlement in a new parish legal if the employee were hired for a full year. It must be remembered that every parish looked jealously on any newcomer as a possible burden one day : hence, the Laws of Settlement were terribly stringent, and the Act of 1691 endeavoured to mitigate their effect. The result was quite contrary. The bugbear of the possible parochial burden was too much for the employer, who took to engaging

Washerwomen (Mary Heavers and Anne Gooch) this Evening as they went home each of them a new stuff Gown ready made.

Oct. 6, Thursday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Mrs. Custances Brother Mr. George Beauchamp and his Wife late Miss Palmer a Lady of great Fortune. After Tea we got to Loo, lost o. i. o. We returned home before 9 o'clock as we went, in Mr. Custance's Coach. . . .

Oct. 7, Friday. . . . Soon after breakfast being a fine morning I drove Nancy in my Curriicle to Mattishall and there spent an agreeable Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Bodham. From thence we went to Mr. Du Quesnes at Tuddenham and there dined and spent the Afternoon by appointment with him only. Mr. Smith of Mattishall was there on horseback talking with Mr. Du Quesne when we arrived. Mr. D[u] Quesne asked him to dinner but he had Company at home. We had for Dinner some boiled Tench and Perch, boiled Beef, a rost Chicken and Apple Pudding. We returned home to Tea, the Evenings being cold and thank God for it had a very agreeable Day of it.

Oct. 10, Monday. . . . I weighed a Bushell of Harts-Wheat (which I had of Mr. Jeanes's Man Willm. last Saturday for Seed) this morning, Weight 4 Stone

his servants on contracts for just short of a year: the effect being that, if the servant eventually became a pauper, he could be removed to his parish of origin. The break in the annual employment usually took place at Michaelmas: hence the lads and lasses trudging to Reepham Petty Sessions where, presumably, they would enter into new contracts of service under the cognizance of the Justices. (See Cunningham's *Growth of English Industry and Commerce*, Part I, p. 112, Part II, pp. 754-5 and foot-note; and J. L. and Barbara Hammond's *The Village Labourer*, pp. 88-90 and 109; also the article on 'Labour Legislation' in the *Enc. Brit.*)

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11 lb. I also weighed a Bushell of mine, (which this year is very fine) and that weighed 4 Stone, 9 lb. I had a Coomb of Mr. Jeanes's Wheat and my Servant Man, Ben, paid for it Saturday 1. 7. 0. It certainly is very capital, clean Wheat.

Octob. 11, Tuesday. . . . Soon after breakfast I went out a Coursing on foot with my People. Nancy also went out with us in the little old Cart and Briton with her. We coursed one Hare and one Rabbit and killed both. The Hare shewed good Sport. I gave the Hare to Mr. Mann. I drove Nancy home about 2 o'clock. My Maid Nanny being desirous of staying at my House till my new Maid comes home which is to Morrow, I very readily complied.

Octob. 12, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Custance sent us a Hare and a brace of Partridges this morning. Mr. G. Beauchamp and Wife left Weston House this morning and are gone for Rainham to Marquis Townshends.¹ I paid my Maid Nanny Golding this Morning her half Years Wages due Oct. 10, 2. 12. 6. And about 2. o'clock this Afternoon her Mother came after her and she returned with her to her own home. I was sorry to part with her as she was a very good Servant I believe and had it not been that she was subject to fits, should not [have] parted with her so soon. Pray God! she might get better of the fits. Since she has taken Assafœtida Drops by my desire she has not had a fit since. I gave her the remaining part of a bottle to carry home. My new Maid Winfred Budery came home this Evening about 5 o'clock. I hope she will do. Dinner to [day] a Couple of rost Chicken and Piggs Face and a broiled blade bone of Veal.

¹ See foot-note, p. 215, vol. ii.

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Octob. 14, Friday. . . . Paid my Blacksmith (John Buck) this Morning a Bill, for Work done the Whole Year, 2. 7. 9. Dinner to day, a boiled Neck of Mutton, a very fine Hare rosted, and hot Apple Pye buttered. I dont know that I ever eat a better Hare tho' we had put it down for an old one by skinning it.

Oct. 16, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church. For an offering at the altar, gave, o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church and at the H. Sacrament, each gave as usual half a Crown. There was not one Farmer at Church this Morn'. Mr. Collison (Billy Bidewells Landlord) sent us a fine Cock-Pheasant and 2 brace of Partridges by Billy Bidewells Son John this Morning. Recd. this Afternoon of Willm. Gooch for his Brother Edward (they leaving Weston) for Tithe due Michaelmas last, for Land of Mr. Custance, o. 6. o.

Oct. 17, Monday. . . . After breakfast I got into my little Curriole and drove to Reepham to attend at the Generals there this day by order of the Archdeacon. I took Briton with me in my Curriole. Got to Reepham about 11. o'clock, went directly to Church and heard Prayers read by Mr. Priest and a Sermon preached by Austin Bulwer. Mr. Baker, Official, represented the Arch-Deacon. Clergy present, Mr. Bulwer, Mr. Priest, Mr. Astley, Mr. Whitmell, Mr. Carr, Mr. Bell, Mr. Sandiford, Mr. Norris, Mr. Maynard and myself. We dined at the Kings Arms kept by one Bell. Mr. Morphew and Clerk dined with us. For ordinary and extraordinary, pd, o. 3. o. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg of Mutton and Caper-Sauce, a nice piece of rost Beef, a Couple of Chicken rosted and Pigs Face, a Couple of rost Ducks, plain Pudding and Plumb, with plenty of good Garden-

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Stuff, all well done and very good Port-Wine. At four o'clock I got into my Curridge and returned home to Tea, thank God safe and well. The Day was very damp with small soft Rain. No Clergy from Aylesham attended to day. St. Faiths Fair to day, a dull day for it. Nancy was to have gone with me had it been fine.

Oct. 18, Tuesday. . . . I privately baptized this morning at my House a Child of William Burnhams by name, Sarah . . .

Oct. 19, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Girling called on me this Morning and paid me for five Coomb of Oats which Mr. Custance had of me the 11. of June last at 10^s/0^d, 2. 10. 0. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent me this Morning a dozen fine Eels. The Infant I baptized Yesterday Morn died last Night—I thought it could not live, it looked so black. It is I hope an happy release for it. It is to be buried to Morrow. Dinner to day, Eels and a fine Piece of rost Beef.

Oct. 20, Thursday. . . . About one o'clock this Afternoon I walked to Weston-Church and buried Sarah Burnham the Infant I baptized Tuesday last, aged 3 Days. Dinner to day, Eels and a Leg Mutton rosted.

Oct. 23, Sunday. . . . After breakfast I took a Walk to G. Witchingham and buried a young Man there by name Willm. Allison, aged 18 years, for Mr. Jeanes, who is not returned home from his Excursion into Hampshire, nor is it yet known when he will return. His Church far from being finished. I returned home as I went by one o'clock. My Boy Billy Downing went with me and carried an Umbrella which was of Service as we had some Rain ¹. At a Quarter after 2. I walked to Weston Church and there read Prayers

¹ See foot-note, p. 300, vol. ii, on umbrellas.

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and Preached, churched a Woman, and Christened a Child of Andrew Spraggs by name Michael, a large Congregation. Mr. and Mrs. Custance at Church this Afternoon. It was Andrew Spragg's Wife that was Churched. I returned my Fee to her for Churching.

Oct. 25, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Alldridge called here this morning with various kinds of Goods in the Linen Drapery way. I bought of him two Common Table-Cloths, 1. o. o. Also 7 Yards of Purple-Cotton for a Gown, o. 14. 6. Also 1 yard and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Patches for Nancy o. 3. 6. Paid him in the whole for the above, 1. 18. 0. We had last Night an uncommon severe Frost for this time of the Year. Ice very near $\frac{1}{2}$ Inch thick. Had my keeping Apples gathered to day.

Octob. 28, Friday. . . . Nancy had a Letter from her Aunt Jⁿ Woodforde this Evening by Mr. Custance's Servant George—In which is mentioned the Death of Mr. James Clarke on the 27 of September last. Mr. Franck Woodforde and Mr. Messiter Executors for his Children—Nothing mentioned of Mrs. R. Clarke having anything. My Sister Pounsett was said to be very indifferent. Pray God ! she may soon get better. Mrs. Thornton of Hatspen also dead, and Mr. Perry late of Ansford Inn died lately at Glastonbury. Mr. Willm. Ashford said to be in a decline. Sister Clarke but poorly and her Son as strange as ever.

Oct. 29, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Barley, bare measure, to Mr. Bloome. Sent Briton also to Norwich with my old little Cart and Horse, Punch, after Newspapers &c. &c. Briton returned about 4 this Aft., no Letters. Ben returned about 5 this Afternoon, he not seeing Mr. Bloome, did not receive Cash for the Barley, but it was supposed to be worth about thirteen and sixpence

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per Coomb or thirteen and threepence. Dinner to day
Calfs Fry and a fine Goose rosted.

Nov. 1, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance called here this
Morning in her Coach but did not get out, having
been to Mr. Townshends, she brought a Note to my
Niece from Mrs. Townshend, of an Invitation to us
at Dinner on Saturday next with Mr. and Mrs.
Custance. Mrs. Custance was so kind as to offer us
Places in their Coach on that Day and they are to call
for us. Dinner to day 2 boiled Chicken and Piggs Face
&c. Very cold all Day and Wind rough.

Nov. 2, Wednesday. . . . To James Pegg, for Taxes
this Morn' pd, 7. 16. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$. Very cold with a strong
Easterly Wind and Rain. To Briton for things from
Norwich &c. pd, 1. 7. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. To Ben, for ditto, pd,
1. 0. 5. To Betty, for things pd. 0. 4. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. Recd.
a note of Invitation to dinner on Friday next at Mr.
Du Quesnes to meet Mr. and Mrs. Bodham &c.
Britons Sister called here to day on her Brother and
she came in and eat some Bullace-Tart. Mrs. Michael
Andrews of Morton admiring my black kind of
Ducks some time back, sent a few Days ago to know
if I would sell them a Duck and a Drake, there-
fore sent my Boy Billy Downing with a Duck and
a Drake to day to her as a present, as I don't sell them.
She gave the Boy a Shilling and was much pleased.

Nov. 4, Friday. . . . To Jⁿ Norton's Son, Tom,
threshing for me gave, 1. 0. We were invited to meet
the Bodhams &c. at dinner to day at Mr. Du Quesnes
but the Weather being very stormy in the Morn' we
did not go. About Noon the Weather was better,
Nancy then was very Mad with me for not going, but
it was better we did not, as we had Rain in the Evening.

Nov. 5, Saturday. . . . We dined and spent the After-

noon at Mr. Townshend with him, his wife, Mrs. Cornwallis, Mr. and Mrs. Custance and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. and Mrs. Custance were so kind to carry us thither and back in their Coach. We had for Dinner, stewed Eels with Onions, a Saddle Mutton roasted, boiled Chicken and a Tongue, Veal-Cutlets, Beef-Stake Tarts in Turrets of Paste, Piggs Ears, &c. in the middle a Stand of Flowers on a painted Board. Second Course, a brace of fine Pheasants a roasted Rabbit, Amulet, Macaroni, Spinage and Eggs, Tartlets, &c. No kind of Desert whatever. After Coffee and Tea, Mrs. Cornwallis, Mrs. Custance, Mr. Du Quesne and Nancy sat down to Cribbage—The rest of the Company Talkers and Lookers on. Nancy, lost at Cribbage, o. i. o. The 3 eldest Miss Townshends and Master Charles made their appearance at Tea Time. We came away from Mr. Townshend's about 8 o'clock. Billy Bidewell brought our Papers this Evening.

Nov. 6, Sunday. . . . I privately named a spurious Child of Mary Younges by John Bridges this Morn' at my House. I read Prayers and Preached, christened a Child of John Hubbard's, and buried one James Thacker of the Parish of Lyng, this Afternoon at Weston Church. I had a very large Congregation at Church. Mr. Custance with his two Daughters at Church. I did not take any thing for burying the young Man, tho' he did not belong to the Parish, his Father being poor and willing that his Son should lie near his Mother. I would not even take the duty on Burials, but pay it myself. Neither did I take the duty for christening Hubbards Child. It was near five o'clock this Afternoon before I could get to dinner. We had for Dinner to day, Calfs Feet boiled and a Loin Veal roasted.

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Nov. 7, Monday. . . Mr. Priest of Reepham dined and spent part of the Afternoon with us, he came on foot and when he left us (which was about 4 this aft.) he walked on for Mr. Du Quesnes. Robt. Downing's Wife begun washing for me in the Room of Nan Gooch, who very shabbily left my House without any Notice and is gone from Weston.

Nov. 9, Wednesday. . . Walked out this morning with my People a coursing three Hours and half, had very fine sport, coursed three Hares and one Rabbit and killed all. Billy Bidewell being with us, gave him one of the Hares, with which he was much pleased. The first Hare shewed us great Sport indeed. As I was out met Sr. John Woodehouses Coach and four with Ladies in it going to Weston House. We had very great Success to day a coursing. Mr. Du Quesne called at Weston Parsonage whilst I was out, but did not stay long, tho' asked by my Niece to dine with us. I sent another of my Hares this Evening by Ben to Mr. Peachman. He was gone to Mr. Howletts. Dinner to day, Surloin of Beef rosted &c.

Nov. 10, Thursday. . . Walked up to Weston-House about Noon to ask Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mr. and Mrs. Will. Beauchamp to drink Tea with us on Saturday Afternoon, but saw none of them, being all out. Mr. Custance was in his Plantations, but I could not find him out, tho' I walked about them near an Hour. Seeing the Coach returned to the House whilst I was walking about, I returned to the House to speak to Mrs. Custance, but she being much fatigued, as she is so near her time, was obliged to lay down, therefore hoped I would excuse her coming down Stairs to speak to me. I sent my Message to her by Hetty Yollup. During the time of my being out this

morning Mr. Peachman sent to my House on his finding a Hare sitting near his House. Nancy therefore sent Ben with my Dogs and they killed her and brought her home, after offering it to Mr. Peachman. . . .

Nov. 11, Friday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. Willm. Beauchamp and Wife, and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Willm. Beauchamp is half Brother to Mrs. Custance and he married lately a Miss Davie Niece of Sr. John Davie¹ of Creedy in Devonshire, she appears very agreeable indeed and Genteel and rather pretty. Mr. Du Quesne took Nancy in his Chaise to Weston House and back again. I footed it there and back. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards to Pope-Joan, at Which I lost about, o. 2. o. Nancy lost also at Cards 2 Shillings. We got home about 9 o'clock this Evening. Sent Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge a fine Hare this morning by Ben. We had for Dinner to day at Weston House some fresh Salmon and Whitings, White-Soup, boiled Chicken and Piggs Face, a Leg Mutton rosted, Pork Stakes, Goose-Giblets and Garden-Stuff. 2 Course, a brace of Pheasants and a brace of Partridges rosted, Trifle, Jelly, Blamange, Rammerkins, and some baked kind of Cakes. Desert, Pears and Apples, Almonds and Raisins, some India sweetmeats, Olives. Claret, Teneriffe, and Port Wines to drink. Mr. Willm. Beauchamp slept and snored a good deal after Dinner and the Ladies were retired. They drink Tea with us Monday Afternoon.

Nov. 12, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben very early to Norwich

¹ Sir John Davie (1734-92), 7th Bt., Sheriff of Devon, 1761-2: the baronetcy (created in 1641) is now extinct. Cokayne's *Complete Baronetage*, vol. ii, p. 144.

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this morning with 10 Coomb 2 Bshls. of Wheat to Mr. Bloome. He returned about 4. this Afternoon with News &c. He brought no Coal, tho' ordered, there being none. He sold my Wheat at 23^s/0^d Per Coomb and brought me home in Paper and Cash for the same, 11. 10. 0. It was 6^d per Coomb more than mentioned on the Norwich Paper for this Day. It was very fine Wheat. Recd. of John Norton for 2. small Piggs, o. 10. 6. Recd. of Ditto, for 2. larger Ditto, 1. 10. 0. . . .

Nov. 13, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and churched Burnham's Wife this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance, with Mr. and Mrs. William Beauchamp were at Church this Morning. Dinner to day boiled Chicken and Mushrooms, a Leg of Mutton rosted and Apple-Pye. Nancy had a Letter from her Brother Sam: from London, brought from Norwich by one of Mr. Custances Servants. He cannot come into Norfolk this Winter.

Nov. 15, Tuesday. . . . About Noon (being fine) I walked out a coursing taking only Briton and the Boy with me, Ben being in Weston Great Field plowing. We stayed out till near 4 o'clock, saw no Hare but coursed one Rabbit and killed it. We walked over most of the large Brakes by Ringland. Nancy very busy with the Maids all the Morning in making some black Puddings &c.

Nov. 20, Sunday. . . . Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent us a string of Eels, gave his Man, o. 1. 0. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with Mr. and Mrs. Willm. Beauchamp at Church. They did not come to Church till I was reading the first Lesson, owing to our Clocks being so different, Mine full half an

Hour faster. Dinner, Eels, boiled Rabbit, and a rost Goose.

Nov. 21, Monday. . . . After breakfast I walked out with my People a coursing from 11. in the Morn' till 3 in the Afternoon, saw 4 brace of Hares, two brace on France-Green and 2. brace, the other side of France-Green in Shadelow's Closes, but killed never a one, the Greyhounds had no chance with any on France-Green. It muddled them so on France-Green that they could do nothing afterwards. They however killed a brace of Rabbits. I never was so little tired as this day, tho very wet in my Feet thro' Buskins and Shoes. We had a good deal of small Rain when out. I did not take a Great Coat with me. Gave John Grant this morn' some Victuals and o. 6. Dinner to day, Eels and a Neck of Pork rosted. Our three Greyhounds were quite tired.

Nov. 24, Thursday. . . . After breakfast about 11 o'clock I walked out a coursing with my People. Had good Sport coursed two brace of Hares and killed one brace. Mr. Peachman was with us most of the time, stayed out till 3. o'clock. All the Hares we started were in Mr. Shadelowe's Closes near France-Green. I offered Mr. Peachman one of the Hares but he did not want one. Mrs. Custance with Mr. Willm. Beauchamp called on Nancy this Morn' and spent half an Hour whilst I was out. Rec'd a frank'd Letter from Mr. Jeanes in London, that he should stay in Town till this Day sennight, and if we wanted any thing from Town he would get it for us.

Nov. 29. . . . Christned a Child this morning of Jos. Bowles by name Hester, at my House. About 11. this morning walked out a coursing with my People till after 3 o'clock, saw no Hare whatever tho' out so long,

we did not take the Spaniels with us, or else we might perhaps. We went towards Lyng and round by Hockering Heath.

Decem. 3, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning with my little old Cart to Norwich after News and many things. Nancy sent by him a long letter to Mrs. Jⁿ Woodforde. Briton returned about 5 o'clock this Afternoon which was rather late, but he had much to do. Dinner to day a rosted Leg of Mutton and a Sallad. My Cow Beauty, had a Cow Calf this Evening.

Dec. 5, Monday. . . . Mr. Mann called on me this Morning and as he cannot wait on me to Morrow, he being going to Gressenhall Fair then, paid me his Annual Composition for Tithe the Sum of 36. 16. 0. I paid him for Carriage of Coal, 2 Chldrn, 0. 10. 0.

Dec. 6, Tuesday. . . . This being my Tithe Audit Day the following People waited on me, paid me their respective dues and dined and spent the remaining part of the day with me, they left me about 12 o'clock at night, well pleased with their entertainment. Mr. Girling and Son, Mr. Peachman, Mr. Howlett, John Baker, Jonas Silvey, Henry Case, Js. Pegg, Robt. Emeris, Stephen Andrews, Hugh Bush, Willm. Bidewell, John Buck, John Norton, Thos. Reynolds Junr., John Culley, Charles Hardy, Henry Rising, Thos. Cary, and John Heavers. Widow Pratts Son James came soon after dinner and paid me for his Mother. He came quite drunk and behaved very impudently. Stephen Andrews and Billy Bidewell rather full. Billy Bidewell paid me for a Calf which he is to have of me in a few Days, 0. 10. 6. Recd. for Tithe to day about 285. 0. 0. I gave them for Dinner a Surloin of Beef rosted, Sliff-Marrow-Bone of Beef boiled, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Caper-Sauce, a Couple of

Rabbits and Onion Sauce, Some salt Fish boiled and Parsnips, and Egg Sauce with plenty of plumb-Puddings and plain ditto. They spoke highly in favour of my strong Beer, they never drank any better they said. Paid Stephen Andrews for Carr[iage] of Coal, o. 15. 0. Paid Ditto, for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d Rate to the Church o. 2. 0. Recd. of Ditto, my last Visitation Fee, o. 2. 6. Mr. Howlett was very dull and dejected. There was drank, six Bottles of Rum which made three Bowls of Punch, four Bottles of Port Wine, besides strong-Bear. No Punch or Wine suffered in Kitchen. Mr. Girling who had been to Norwich this Morning brought us News of Lord Orfords Death a Man universally respected and will be universally lamented as he was one of the Most Charitable, humane Men, as has been known many a Day. His Death is supposed to be entirely owing to the Loss of his most intimate Friend, Mrs. Park who lived with him and had many Years. She had been a particular Friend to him.¹

¹ Lord Orford's death (for an account of Lord Orford see foot-note, p. 197, vol. ii) meant the succession to the title, as 4th earl, of Horace Walpole, now an old man of seventy-four. Horace, writing to the Countess of Upper Ossory on Dec. 10, 1791, in answer apparently to a letter of condolence, and felicitation on his succession to the title, says: '... I am not surprised at your being kind on an occasion that is generally productive of satisfaction. That is not quite the case with me. Years ago, a title would have given me no pleasure, and at any time the management of a landed estate, which I am too ignorant to manage, would have been a burden. ... As, however, I owe it to you and to my poor nephew, I will just say that I am perfectly content. He has given me the whole Norfolk estate, heavily charged, I believe, but that is indifferent. I had reason to think that he had disgraced, by totally omitting me—but unhappy as his intellects often were, and beset as he was by miscreants, he has restored me to my birthright, and I shall call myself obliged to him, and be grateful to his memory. . . .' (Walpole's *Letters*, vol. xv, pp. 92–3.) Horace Walpole did not take up his residence at Houghton, where he had once lived with his father, the Prime Minister; he did not, therefore, become even

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Dec. 7, Wednesday. . . . Barnard Dunnell called on me this Morning and paid me for Tithe, 2. 2. 0. Mr. Townshend's Game-keeper John Hutchins brought me a Spaniel-Bitch-Puppey about five Weeks old, a bright brown curled Puppey. Gave John for his trouble o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes returned home Sunday last to Witchingham. I sent to enquire for them Yesterday. They with their 2 little Childrn are very well.

Dec. 8, Thursday. . . . Paid Mr. Forster, Miller, a Bill of, 4. 18. 6 for Flour for the last Year. I paid him also 1. Years Rent for College Land in my Possession, to Michaelmas last, 17. 0. 0. Paid my Butcher, Harry Baker, also this Morning, for Meat for the last Year, 40. 16. 0. Recd. of him for a Calf, 1. 14. 6. Mrs. Custance made us a Morning Visit. Recd. of young Widow Greaves for Tithe this Afternoon for 3 Acres and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Land, o. 10. 6. She dined with our People in the Kitchen. A very sharp wind Frost this Evening.

Dec. 9, Friday. . . . Mr. Palmer, my Malster, called on me this Morn' by my desire, and I paid him a Bill for Malt and some Grass Seeds 19. 12. 11. Harry Dunnell called on me this Evening and paid me Tithe for 4 Acres of Land o. 12. 0. I gave him back, having a large Family 2. 6 and also gave him plenty of Victuals and drink. It has been very cold all Day and froze all the day.

Dec. 10, Saturday. . . . A good deal of Snow fell in the Night and very cold all Day tho' the Sun shone some time. It froze the whole Day in the Shade. Mr. Custance took a Walk this Morning to Weston Parsonage

a remote neighbour of Parson Woodforde who, in literature, may be said to represent the best audit ale, as Horace Walpole represents the best champagne of the eighteenth century.

and spent above an Hour with us. Billy Bidewell brought our News for us to day and likewise brought a Letter for Nancy from her Brother William at Gallhampton. Was very glad to hear by it that my Sister Pounsett was so much better by going to Bath. Willm. Asford of Castle-Cary and John Grant commonly called Dr. Jⁿ Grant, both dead. Willm. and his Wife talk of going to London very soon to spend some Days with his B[rother] Sam.

Dec. 11, Sunday. . . . Most bitter cold Morn', very hard Frost indeed with a strong North Wind, it froze all day long even within doors very quick Therm at 52. I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church and on foot. I don't know that I ever felt the Weather more cold than on my return from Church. The Wind was so strong and withal so cold that it almost prevented my breathing. It froze the Cream and Milk in my Dairy very soon. We had a Turkey rosted for Dinner the first this Season.

Dec. 12, Monday. . . . Most piercing cold indeed this morning and a sharper Frost if anything than Yesterday, it froze within Doors in a very few Minutes this Morn. The Thermometer was this Morning at nine o'clock down to No 42, tho' in my Study. Norton and Bush had some Words I heard to day at my Tithe Audit in the Kitchen, which was never mentioned to me before or known by me till Norton himself came and told me this Morn' he having applied to Mr. Custance for a Warrant against Bush for assaulting him. Mr. Custance told him to come to me. I advised him to make it up with Bush. Norton is in one of his crazy fits. It vexed me to hear of it. I thought all was harmony and Mirth that Night in the Kitchen.

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Dec. 13, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit about 11 o'clock, he came to hear about Jⁿ Nortons Affair as mentioned Yesterday. I told him all. Mr. Custance on his going away meeting Mr. Jeanes very near my House, coming on foot to make us a Visit, Mr. Custance returned back to us and spent another hour with us with Mr. Jeanes. They left us about half past one by my Clock. Mr. Jeanes looked very well after his Journey. I asked them both to take a Family Dinner but they promised to return home to dinner. To one Golding of Honingham (Brother to my late Maid Anne Golding) having very lately lost a Horse, he being poor and much deformed poor Fellow, a Shoemaker by trade, gave him o. 2. 6. Mr. Jeanes called on my Nephew Sam in London.

Dec. 14, Wednesday. . . . A Frost this morning but very cheery above—The Roads very slippery indeed all Ice almost. Sent Briton this morning on foot to Mr. Du Quesnes with a Note, to enquire after him, having not heard from him since his return from Ely. Briton returned by dinner with a Note from Mr. Du Quesne that he was well, is next Week going with the Honingham Family to Rainham to Marquis Townshend's,¹ which he does not like. I sent for Bush, and he came to me about 11 o'clock this Morning, and I talked with him about Norton [on] my Frolic Night, and by him found that he never struck him, and that Norton kicked him first of all as Many saw.

Dec. 15, Thursday. . . . To one John Sparkes of Easton past 72 Years a Labourer, having lost his only Hobby which used to carry him to his Work at Honingham he being a Brick-Maker, gave o. 2. 6. Frost still continues very severe.

¹ See foot-note, p. 215, vol. ii.

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Dec. 17, Saturday. . . . Master Custance and Master George Custance took a Walk to our House this Morning and made us a morning Visit, they being returned from School for the Christmas Holidays but Thursday. Mr. Du Quesne came here on foot about 2 o'clock by my Clock (which by the by is full half an Hour too fast) and stayed with us an Hour, but would not dine with us. He walked back. It was very fair all day above but smart frost. Mr. Cary's People brought my News &c. from Norwich and likewise carried a Letter to the Post-Office from Nancy to her Brother Sam¹ in Town. No Letters from Somersett or elsewhere to Night. Jⁿ Norton, rather crazy, very troublesome in the Parish.

Dec. 18, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. None from Weston House. John Clarke's Sister with him came to my House this Morn' to desire me to stop the publications of Banns in the Church between her and one Flood. Their Banns had been published twice before. I had a very tolerable Congregation at Church. Mr. Peachman, Girling, Howlett, Andrews &c. &c. I churched one Bowls's Wife, gave her my fee.

Dec. 21, Wednesday. . . . This being St. Thomas-Day, gave to the Poor Housekeepers of the Parish and single People of the same, living in it, in all 57, 1. 8. 6. Very hard Frost again this Morning and from the great Thawe Yesterday in the Afternoon, the Ground was nothing but Ice, and more dangerous walking than ever. Poor Mary Clarke Wife to the late Taylor Clarke's Brother who live on Oddenham-Green where the Taylor did, fell down going round this morning after her Xmas Gift, hurt one of her legs, but not very bad I hope. Part of a Rump of Beef rosted for Dinner.

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Dec. 22, 1791, Thursday. . . . Got up this morning with a violent pain in my right foot in my great Toe at the Joint.

Dec. 23, Friday. . . . Pain in my right foot rather worse than better this Morning, obliged to put on one of my great Shoes. Dinner to day hashed Mutton and a Goose rosted.

Dec. 24, Saturday. . . . Very severe night of Weather, rough Winds, smart Frost and storms of Snow at time[s]. Mr. Jeanes made us a morning Visit on foot tho' such Weather, came here about 12. and stayed till one, could not dine with us, eat a baked Apple. He brought with him some things for Nancy which Mrs. Jeanes bought for her in London, which were a pair of Gold Ear-rings round and blue Stone in the Center, called the Duchess of York's Earrings,¹ a pair of black Spanish Leather Shoes with black and poppey coloured roses, very pretty. Nancy paid for the above and likewise for 8 Yards of pale-blue Calico sent before and designed for a Gown, for her. Nancy paid him for all, 2. 10. o. Viz. for the Calico at 2^s/6^d, 1. o. o. For the gold Ear-rings 1. 4. o. For the Shoes 5^s/0^d. Roses 1^s/0^d, 6. o. I made Nancy a Present of the Ear-rings and paid her for the same, after Mr. Jeanes was

¹ The Duchess of York was the wife of Prince Frederick Augustus, Duke of York (1763–1827), second son of George III. She was Princess Frederica Charlotte Ulrica Catherina (1767–1820), eldest daughter of Frederick William II, king of Prussia, and was married to the Duke of York on Sept. 29, 1791, in Berlin. She was delightedly received in London in Nov., and ‘a great sale was found even for imitations of her slippers’. Hence the ear-rings also. She soon became separated from her handsome husband (who now stands upon the pinnacle surveying the world from his steps), and amused herself innocently at Oatlands Park, Weybridge, with pet dogs (see *D.N.B.* under her husband). Parson Woodforde’s nephew, Samuel Woodforde, painted the Duke, and had dreams of knighthood which were not realized (see p. 138, vol. ii, and foot-note).

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gone, as she did not intend to go so high, 1. 4. o. My foot this morning was very painful indeed owing to my having something of the Cramp in ye night and it being so severe and bitter cold night. Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich after News and many other things much wanted. He came home thank God safe and well abt 5. but never was out in so bad a day before. This being Christmas Eve had my Windows as usual ornamented with small branches of Hulver (alias Holley) properly seeded.

Dec. 25, Sunday and Xmas Day. . . . This being Christmas I walked to Church this Morning and read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament to 22 Communicants. Gave for an Offering at the Altar o. 2. 6. None from Weston House at Church this Morn' the Weather being very cold, wet and windy and extreme bad Walking, being all Ice under [foot]. My Foot extremely painful, hard Matter to get to and from Church, but thank God I went thro' it all better than I expected. The following old Men dined at my House being Christmas Day and each had a Shilling apiece to carry home to their Wives, o. 6. o. James Smith, Thomas Carey, Thomas Carr, Christopher Dunnell, Nathaniel Heavers, and John Peachman. Dinner to Day Surloin of Beef rosted, plumb Puddings and mince Pies. My large Wax Candle lighted up as usual for one Hour (being Christmas Day) in the Evening. It froze again sharp this Evening. Thank God my foot was much better at Night. I laid my Foot up in a Chair almost all the Aft.

Dec. 26, Monday. . . . To Js. Fisher, blacksmiths Man, Xmas Gift, 1. o. To Jⁿ Austin, Butchers Man, Xmas Gift, 1. o. It froze again all last Night and this

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Morning which makes it worse walking than ever. Paid Mr. Cantrell of Lenewade Bridge for Porter, Wine and Rum for the Year, 3. 6. o. To Weston Ringers, gave o. 2. 6. To Jⁿ Short Junr, Wheelwrights Son Xmas Gift 1. o. To Js. Barratt, Malster's Man, Ditto, 1. o. Dinner to day, boiled Beef and Pork and Greens. Blessed be God for it, my foot is much better. Mrs. Custance was brought to bed of a Daughter last Night, in about half an Hour after the Dr. came. We did not hear anything of it till this Evening and then by chance. I sent up almost immediately.

Dec. 27, Tuesday. . . . Had a Pig killed this Morn', weight, 8 Stone. Paid Willm. Hardy, Mason, a Bill of, 3. 13. 1½. Mr. Custance with his Son Willm. made us a morning Visit, did not stay a great while. John Norton still remains giving much uneasiness to People in the Parish. Had three more Warrants of Mr. Custance Yesterday ag[ainst] People. Mrs. Custance but very indifferent to day owing to a violent rheumatic Pain in her head and Teeth. Dinner to day, Piggs Fry and a Couple [of] rost Chicken.

Dec. 28, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance still very bad, had three Teeth drawn Yesterday Afternoon. . . .

Dec. 30. . . . Mrs. Custance still very poorly indeed. Dinner to Day boiled Pork and Leg of Mutton rosted. My Cow, Betsy, had a Bull Calf this Afternoon. My Foot, thank God, a good deal better to day.

Dec. 31. . . . Mrs. Custance a small matter better but still poorly. My Foot still getting better thank God. Dinner to day, a boiled Ham and rost Turkey. Billy Bidewell brought my News and also a Letter from my Sister Pounsett, which I was very happy to receive,

having not had one from her for many a Day owing to her being so long ill, she tells me that she has been to Bath and returned hearty and well from Dr. Harrington's Skill.¹

Anno Domini 1792..

Jany. 1st, 1792, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. None from Weston-House at Church. Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday, poorly. Had a pretty full Congregation at Church to day. Returned to one Flood who some time back sent me the fee for publishing his Banns and was afterwards forbid by the Girl, o. 2. 6. My Foot (blessed be God for it) is much better. I walked to Church quite trig, but have not as yet left of my great Shoe lined with bays and still sleep with a worsted gauze-Stocking on that foot, which I think have done good. Dinner to Day, Neck of Pork rosted and Apple-Sauce. Pray God an happy Year may this be to us and to all our Friends every where, and Especially to our most worthy and particular Friend Mrs. Custance, now under very great Affliction ; may thy Almighty Goodness O Lord ! send thy restoring Angel to her and

¹ Henry Harington, M.D. (1727-1816), was a descendant of Queen Elizabeth's Sir John Harington and born at Kelston, Somerset. He seems to have inherited the versatility of his ancestor, and though by profession a doctor at Bath since 1771, his claim to remembrance (apart from curing Sister Pounsett) is based on his musical compositions. He founded the Bath Harmonic Society and published a large number of songs and glees ; his biographer in the *D.N.B.* states that 'his round, "How great is the pleasure," and duet, "How sweet in the woodlands," were once very popular.' He also wrote 'A treatise on the Use and Abuse of Music'. The Duke of York made him his physician, and Bath her mayor. He is buried in Bath Abbey.

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bless every medicine made use of for her recovery :
And also send Comfort to her truly most most affectionate and loving Husband Mr. Custance in his present great distress, and to their dear Children Health.

Jany. 2, Monday. . . . Paid Vassar, Brickmaker, a Bill of 5. 19. 6. Mason of Sparham with his Bell-Harp was here this Morning and gave us his Annual Musick for about half an Hour, gave 1. 6. About Noon being a tolerable mild day, I drove Nancy to Witchingham to Mr. Jean[e]s in my Curriicle and spent an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes and then returned home to dinner. Mr. Jeanes was gone out a hunting. Mrs. Jeanes was very affable and agreeable. Nancy bought a Bargain of her, a double Handkerchief, bought in Town, pd. 0. 4. 0. Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday. Coming home from Mr. Jeanes our Chaise Horse Jenny, fell down on all fours near the Creft but blessed be God we received no Injury whatever by it, or Horse.

Jany. 3, Tuesday. . . . Gave Betty Leave to go home for a couple of days to see her Friends at Mattishall. Ben carried her in my old Cart to E. Tuddenham. Master Custance with his two Brothers, George and William made us a morning Visit, stayed about half an Hour with us, and then I took a Walk back with them to Weston House and there privately baptized Mrs. Custance's last Child (Born on Christmas Day last) by name Charlotte. I was ready dressed and just going to take a Walk to Weston-House as the young Gentlemen came. Poor Mrs. Custance still extremely ill, not able to move. Mr. Custance most unhappy abt. it tho' Mr. Martineau ⁱ says, he sees no

ⁱ 'Doctor and Man Midwife' : see foot-note, p. 292, vol. i.

danger. Pray God Almighty restore her to her former Health soon, is the earnest Prayers and Wishes of her many many Friends, particularly to her dearest Friend and deservedly so, my much ever respected Squire Mr. Custance. It is my daily, Morning and Evening Prayer, that she might get over it and that soon. Poor Lady Bacon I sincerely pity on her Sister being so ill. I never knew two Sisters in all my life testify more regard one to another more than Lady Bacon and Mrs. Custance, and I believe them to be as good Women in every respect as England ever produced. A Hare was found setting near the Church by John Baker Junr., sent Ben out with my Dogs and they soon killed her. I told Ben to give John 1^s/0^d. It was a very large Hare its weight was 8lb $\frac{1}{2}$. Dinner to day boiled Beef.

Jany. 4, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance a small matter better this Morning. My Foot very easy and free from Pain, but had uncommon feelings about me to day. I am inclined to think the Gout flying abt. me. . . .

Jany. 5, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Custance (thank God) had a tolerable Night. Had a kind Note of Invitation to dinner this Morning from Mr. Du Quesne, but sent a note back that I was not well enough to go out. Mr. Priest with his eldest Daughter called here in their way to Mr. Du Quesnes in their Carriage and took Nancy with them to Du Quesnes. Nancy dined, supped and slept at Mr. Du Quesnes. Miss Priest was to have been left at my house till Saturday Morn' by Mr. Priest's Scheme but it being settled at my House that the Ladies should go to Mr. Du Quesnes, I could say nothing against it, however should have liked to have had more notice of their design, and likewise to have been apprised of Mr. Priests Intention respecting

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his Daughter being at Weston Parsonage till Saturday, as we might have been engaged &c. I would wish to know of People coming to my House to stay, some little time before, as one might be better prepared to receive them. Mr. Jeanes also called at my House almost at the same time that Mr. Priest came, they stayed near half an Hour or rather better here. Mr. Jeanes called at Weston-House and talked some time with Mr Custance. Mrs. Custance is somewhat better and an appearance of something rising like an abscess externally on her thigh, which I hope she will have strength sufficient to support her under it. Betty returned home just before dinner.

Jan. 6, Friday. . . . Sent Briton to Weston House again this Morn' brought me bad News of poor Mrs. Custance, that she had had a very bad Night, and all very uneasy about her at Weston-House. 'Pray God Almighty bless the means that are made use of for her Recovery and preserve her, and likewise comfort her distressed Husband, Children, and her dear Friends allied to her. Her present distressed Situation makes me very unhappy, as she has been so kind to us. Mr. Thorne called on me about dinner time stayed about half an hour, left Compts to my Niece and should be glad to see her at his House to meet Miss Davy in February. I made little or no Answer to him on that Account as our Connection with the Davys are at an End. I asked him to dinner but he declined it. Nancy still at Mr. Du Quesne's with Miss Priest.

Janry. 7, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Custance (thank God for it) is something better. Mr. Priest brought home Nancy this morning. I asked him and Miss Priest to dinner but they refused. I sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with 10 Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloome,

he returned to dinner by 4 o'clock. A Note returned from Mr. Bloome's Clerk, but no money, Barley 12^s/6^d. Recd. a Letter this Morning by Mr. Custances Servant from Mr. Steward Attorney at Norwich, who succeeded Mr. Francis as Dep[uty] Steward to the Coll[ege] with Quit-Rent Receipts, which should have been recd. by me at my Tithe Audit. The Letter dated October 19th, 1791, where it has been since that time I know not.

Janry. 9, Monday. . . . Had but little Sleep in the Night, by no means well. Mrs. Custance still better, blessed be God for it. Gave Nancy this Evening her New Years Gift as usual, of one of Gurneys Bank Notes of 10. 0. 0.¹ I seemed rather better this Evening after Supper. Dinner to day, Beef Soup, hash Mutton and Sausage. My Appetite very indifferent to day.

Janry 10, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance still mending for the better, thank God. Much better I am this morning, and had a good Night but am far from well nevertheless. Paid my Servants this morning their Wages, viz.

To Ben Leggatt a Yrs. Wages due Janry 6, 10. 0. 0

To Bret. Scurl ditto ditto 8. 0. 0

To Billy Downing ditto do. 2. 2. 0

To Eliz. Dade ditto do. 5. 5. 0

To Winfred Budery, a Qrs Wages due Janry 6 1. 6. 6

Paid to my Servants this Day in all 26. 13. 6. Recd. of Briton for a Calf, sold to Wm. Bidewell, 10. 6. Paid Ben, Betty, and Briton with Norwich B[ank] Bills.

Ben and Betty took them without the least hesitation but Briton refused to take one, which hurt me, however some time after, he complied and took it.

¹ See foot-note, p. 140, preceding.

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Janry 11, Wednesday. . . . Something better to day but Appetite still bad. A very severe Frost indeed, froze sharp within. Brewed a Barrel of common Beer to day. Master Custance with his Brother George made us a long morning Visit and brought us good tidings of their Mama being much better. They also told us that Mr. Jeanes's youngest Daughter, Charlotte, died this morning. It is I doubt not an happy change for her, as she never was well from her birth. She was two Years old the 31. of last December. Mrs. Jeanes paid the greatest Attention and acted the part of the kindest of Mothers to her always. Dinner to day, a Couple of boiled Rabbits and Onions and a piece of rost Beef.

Janry 12, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Custance very finely this morning (thank God). I was taken very strangely this morning with a kind of a fainting fit owing I apprehend to the extreme cold Weather, but soon got better thank God. Sent Briton this Morning to Mr. Jeanes's to enquire after them on their Loss of a Daughter. Dinner to day Giblet Soup, boiled Pork and rost Rabbit. Appetite rather better but still very poorly. Most bitter cold Day, froze very sharp within agⁿ. Our Maid Betty Dade taken very ill this Even' with Wind-Cholic, gave her some Aether. She is very subject to Hysteric Wind.

Janry 13, Friday. . . . Mrs. Custance still continues getting better. Tolerably well (thank God) this Morning. As severe a Frost last Night as I ever remember. Betty something better this morning. Recd. for Butter of Mr. Cary, 5 Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ at 11^d 0. 5. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. Dinner to day Giblet Soup and a rost Chicken. Gave Betty some Rhubarb and Ginger this Evening going to bed, she is better this Evening. I took a small

Quantity of Rhubarb and Ginger also going to bed, better to day thank God. Water Gruel generally my Supper now.

Janry. 14, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Custance still continues getting better. Betty also a good deal better this Morning. The most severe Frost last Night and this Morning as I ever felt. The Milk in the Dairy in the Pans was one Piece of Ice and the Water above Stairs in the Basons froze in a few Minutes after being put there this Morn'. I don't know that I ever perceived the cold so piercing as this Morning, have kept a Charcoal-Fire in my Cellar since we brewed. Dinner to day a boiled Chicken with Pork and Greens and a fat Goose rosted, and Damson Tarts &c. Billy Bide-well brought our News for us.

Janry 15. . . . Got up this morning very ill with a bad cold and sore Throat, so hoarse that I was not able to do my duty at Church this Afternoon. Sent round to my Parishioners this Morn' that there would be no Service at Church to day. Very poorly all day but rather better in the After[noon]. My Appetite very bad indeed. Poor Mrs. Custance much worse to day, but I hope she is not so bad as she has been. Weather much altered since Yesterday, much milder, which might have great effect upon her. Dinner to day Veal Soup, Calfs Fry, and Neck Veal rosted.

Janry. 16, Monday. . . . Mrs. Custance some little matter better this Morn'. Mr. Custance but very poorly indeed which I wonder not much at, being so miserable abt. Mrs. C. Pray God send them both better soon. My Cold something better to day but still I am far from well, very dull and sleepy in the Mornings between breakfast and dinner. Dinner to day a Leg of Mutton rosted &c.

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Janry 17, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Custance something better this Morn' and Mr. Custance. Thank God I find myself better and Appetite better. I walked to Weston Church this Morning married John Cutting and Anne Baker by Banns. Recd. for marrying John Cutting and Anne Baker having recd. before 2^s/6^d, only o. 2. 6. Dinner to day boiled Beef and Damson Tarts. I relished my Dinner very well and eat tolerably hearty.

Janry 18, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance something better this Morn' and Mr. Custance. Killed a fat Pig this morning, Weight 8 Stone. John Piper, Gardner, and his Man Tom Rudd breakfasted and dined with our Folks in Kitchen.

Janry 19, Thursday. . . . Mrs. Custance rather better. Mr. Custance near the same. Mr. Du Quesne made us a long morning Visit. Dinner to day Veal Soup, Leg of Pork boiled and a very nice Peas Pudding with it. To one Alexander of Sotherton in Suffolk, a Petitioner, having lost many Cows &c. gave 2. 6. Recd. for 5 Pints and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Butter at 11^d 5. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. Thank God for it! that I am better, and my Appetite returning, made a good dinner. John Piper breakfasted and dined here again.

Janry. 20, Friday. . . . Mr. Custance with his Son George made us a morning Visit on foot, they came about 12 and stayed till after 2. with us. During their being with us, Mr. Branthwaite of Taverham called at my House to speak with Mr. Custance and stayed an Hour with us. It was on some Justice business in removing a Pauper.¹ Mr. Branthwaite was on horse-

¹ For a reference to the stringent laws of Settlement in the eighteenth century see foot-note, pp. 303-4, preceding. These laws were modified by two Acts passed in 1793 and 1795 respectively. The Act of 1793 prevented

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back, no Servant w̄ him. Mr. Custance's Face a good deal swelled. Mrs. Custance better, now out of all danger apparently. Dinner to day, Piggs Fry and rost Pork.

Janry 21, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich with my little Cart after News and many other things. He did not return till after 4 o'clock this Aft[ernoon]. This Evening on the Papers saw the Death of our very worthy Bishop Dr. George Horne mentioned.¹ He died at Bath on Tuesday last.

Janry 22, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. None of Mr. Custances Family at Church. I went thro' the Duty very well, but still unwell. I publickly presented in the Church this Aft[ernoon] a Child of one John Barkers of Norwich, late a Servant of Mr. Branthwaites, who married one of Crossley's Daughters of this Parish, it had been privately baptized before at Norwich by name, Maria, sixteen Weeks old to Morrow.

Jan. 28, Saturday. . . . Sent a Letter to my Sister Pounsett by Carys Folks. Our Papers were brought by Cary's People and with them a Letter for Nancy from her Brother Sam¹ in answer to hers above a Month ago acquainting us that his Brother Willm. and Wife returned into Somersett about a fortnight ago from London and were got home safe and well. Samuel calls his Brother the Squire. Nancy's deafness near the same [she had been taken deaf in her left ear

members of Friendly Societies from being removed from any parish to which they might have gone from their own parish, until they became actually chargeable. The Act of 1795 made this concession general (see *The Village Labourer* by J. L. and B. Hammond, pp. 90 and 128-9, sixth impression, 1924).

¹ See foot-note, p. 204, preceding.

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on the 25th]. We think it proceeds from hardness of the Wax in the Ear, therefore when she went to bed, she had a teaspoonfull of warmish Water poured into her Ear, that being prescribed by Dr. Donne¹ of Norwich to Mrs. Custance on her late deafness and which entirely cured her in about a fortnight's time.

N.B. made use of Morning and night for some time.

Janry. 30, Monday. . . . My sow Pig had 11 young ones in the Night but before our People knew it, 6 of them found dead. Nancy near the same as Yesterday being still deaf. Dinner to day fried Beef and a rosted Hare. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham sent over their Servant to enquire after us by a verbal message. Nancy sent a Note back to Mrs. Bodham by way of Answer. Mrs. Custance a small matter better this Evening. Mr. Custance got quite recovered, the young Gentlemen rather heavy hearted this Evening as they to Morrow go to School.

Janry. 31, Tuesday. . . . Nancy rather better this morning continues the Water. I had a very restless Night tho' I took Rhubarb last Night. Mr. Du Quesne's Housekeeper, Betty England, was sent over to enquire after us. She came in an one-horse Chaise, and stayed about an Hour with us. She returned home to dinner. We had for dinner some boiled Pork and rost Turkey. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost, o. o. 6.

Feb. 1st, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday. It being a mild and pleasant Morning I trimmed up some of my Fir Trees in my Yard next y^e Garden. I sweated very profusely in doing the same. Dinner to day Bubble and Squeak and broiled Turkey. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost,

¹ See foot-note, pp. 234-5, vol. ii.

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o. o. 6. Nancy thinks that she hears better this Evening.

Feb. 3rd, Friday. . . . Nancy now thinks that she hears better to day. Took a Walk this Morning to Weston-House stayed better than half an Hour there and then returned home to Dinner. Mrs. Custance still confined to her bed and as helpless as ever, quite lame of one Side, in every other respect tolerably well. Mr. Custance gone out. Dinner to day boiled Rabbit and Leg Mutton rosted. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, won, o. o. 6. I am neither well or ill, have at times strange feeling about me, cold streams running over my Shoulders &c. at times, and restless Nights.

Feb. 8, Wednesday. . . . Nancys hearing almost entirely recovered. Had a Note this Evening by Js. Atterton from Mr. Du Quesne, sent an Answer back by him, and also sent by him a Quart Bottle of Tent Wine and a Couple of Lemons to his Sister in Law Sus. Greaves who is in the last Stage of a Consumption. Pray God comfort her in distress and soon release her. Dinner to day, boiled Leg of Pork and Peas Pudding, a rost Rabbit and Damson Tarts. At Cribbage this Evening, lost o^s/6^d.

Feb. 9, Thursday. . . . Sent a Note this morning to Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes to desire their Company to Morrow to dinner to meet Mr. Du Quesne, recd. only a verbal answer back by Briton that Mr. Jeanes was very ill, could not write, and could not wait on us, but that they certainly would had Mr. Jeanes been well. Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday. Dinner to day fryed Pork and a rost Goose. Nancy's hearing quite recovered. At Cribbage this Evening, lost, o. 6.

Feb. 10, Friday. . . . About one o'clock took a Walk to Weston Church and buried Martha Clarke an Infant,

Daughter of our Neighbour John Clarke, aged 11 Years [months ?]. I never knew any thing of her being ill till she was dead. She did not keep her bed above one or two Days. Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon with us and stayed till half past 8 o'clock. We had for Dinner some Giblet-Soup, part of a Loin of Beef boiled, a very fine fat Cock-Turkey 15lb weight, roasted and hot mince Pies. Mr. Du Quesne eat very hearty indeed of the Turkey dirtied two Plates with it, said, he did not know that he ever tasted so good a Turkey before. Nancy and myself also thought that we never eat a better in all our lives. It was of the coal-black-kind of Turkey, Flesh like Snow for whiteness. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards to three-handed Cribbage. I lost all that was lost, only, o. 6.

Feb. 14, Tuesday. . . . This being Valentine's Day gave this morning to 62 Children of my Parish at 1^d each 5. 2. Mrs. Custance rather better than yesterday. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost, o. 6.

Feb. 15, Wednesday. . . . Mrs. Custance sent her Coach and four after Nancy this morning to spend an Hour with her in her Room which she did and returned about 1 o'clock. She found Mrs. Custance better than she expected but nevertheless so bad as to be unable to move herself in bed or likely to do so perhaps for the next two Months, owing it is supposed to some violent strain in the back-bone on Child-bearing. In every other respect very well, can eat and drink heartily and now in tolerable good Spirits. After Nancy was gone I took a Walk with my People a coursing and stayed out till 3 o'clock. Coursed one Hare and one Rabbit and killed both. On my return home I privately baptized a Child of Johnny Reeves that was at my House by name Sarah. As I was a

coursing this morning a Gentleman smartly dressed rode up to me and enquired whether I had seen Mr. Peachman. His name was Jarrett Dashwood as Briton informed me. We had just killed a fine Hare.

Feb. 16. . . . Mr. Du Quesne called here this morning in his Chariot as he was going to dinner at Mr. Jeanes's but did not get out, we were invited and intended to have went but prevented by bad Weather, Wind, Snow, Sleet and Hail, very cold. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 11^d, o. 5. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost, o. o. 6. Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday. Mr. Custance sent us the first Vol. of the Devil upon 2 Sticks in England.¹ We read it over before bed-time.

Feb. 18, Saturday. . . . Exceeding cold indeed with Snow and Wind and intense Frost, froze very sharp within Doors. Sent Briton early this morning on horseback to Norwich after News and many other things. He came home about 5 o'clock this Afternoon having had a very cold and disagreeable Day of it—As it snowed the whole Day with a strong Wind and also froze very sharply all Day. Dinner to day boiled Pork, hash Mutton and a roasted Duck. Potatoes and Greens. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won, o. 6.

Feb. 20, Monday. . . . Killed a fat Pig this morning, weight 9 Stone. Very severe Frost again and more Snow. It froze sharp all Night and this Morn' within doors. I was but very indifferent all Day, the cold pinches me. Dinner to day Pigs Fry, Tripe and a Rabbit roasted. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy neither won or lost. Mrs. Custance near the same as Yesterday. We are reading the Devil upon

¹ By William Combe, 1790, a continuation of Le Sage's *Le Diable Boiteux*.

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two Sticks in England lent us by Mrs. Custance, they are very cleaver indeed and well wrote. It takes of every fashionable Vice in real Characters.

Feb. 21, Tuesday. . . . Harder Frost this morning than any yet and colder. Dinner to day, Fillett of Veal rosted, and it being Shrove-Tuesday we had Fritters also. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy lost, o. o. 6. Thank God was something better this morning. I had of late drank Tea for breakfast but this morning left it of again and took to Sasafras. I privately baptized a Child of Woodcocks by name Susannah.

Feb. 23. . . . At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost, o. o. 6. Mrs. Custance something better to day thank God ! Mr. Custance sent us three Snipes this Morning.

Feb. 24, Friday. . . . I privately baptized a Child of Rob^t. Chubbecks this morning at my House by name Thomas. Dinner to day boiled Tripe and a fine rost Turkey. At Cribbage with Nancy this Evening, won, o. o. 6. To Cantrell's Son bringing me some Rum, o. o. 6.

Feb. 26, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. None from Weston House at Church. Poor Sukey Greaves departed this Life this Morn' and I hope gone to a more happy and lasting one. Sukey Greaves died of a Consumption, about 25. Years of age. Was lately a Servant at Weston-House, and extremely good have Mr. and Mrs. Custance been to her in all her illness. Mrs. Custance not quite so well to day. Dinner to Day a Loin of Veal rosted.

Feb. 27, Monday. . . . I privately baptized this morning at my House a Child of John Harrison by name

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Virtue-Harley. Uncovered my Fig-Trees this Morn' being fine. Dinner to day Cottage-Pye, hashd Hare, cold Tongue, and Turkey &c. At Cribbage this Evening lost again o. o. 6.

March 2, Friday. . . . Nancy walked with Betty to Weston-House this Morning where they stayed and dined it being wet. They returned home in the Evening in Mr. Custance's Coach. Nancy found Mrs. Custance better, she was very glad to see Nancy as was Mr. Custance also. Dinner to day Salt Fish, boiled Beef, and Calfs Fry. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 11^d per Pint, 5. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, lost o. 6.

March 8. . . . Very cutting wind. Frost and bitter cold. Dinner to day boiled Beef and Apple Dumplins. It was as severe a frost and as cold this Evening as it has been all this Winter almost. The cold affected us both very much to day. Rec^d for Butter this Evening at 11^d, 4. 7.

March 10, Saturday. . . . Sent a Letter to Mr. Attwood of the Treasury in answer to one rec^d from him concerning some of Mr. Custance's Children who are in the Tontine.¹ Sent the same to Norwich by some of Cary's People who are to bring back my Newspapers. Very severe Frost, froze sharp within Doors this Morn'. Snow again this Morning and some in the Aft. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted &c. Evening very sharp Frost again and very cold.

March 11, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morn' at Weston Ch[urch]. Mr. Custance at Church, a small Congregation. It was fair this Morn' but very cold. N.E. Wind Also a smart Frost and much Snow on the ground. Dinner to Day a Breast Veal rosted

¹ See foot-note, pp. 282-3, preceding.

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and hasn Mutton. Dr. Manners Sutton (a near Relative of the late Duke of Rutland) is appointed Bishop of Norwich in the Room of the late Dr. Horne. Dr. Sutton is a young Man for a Bishop only 36 but is married and has 11 Children. Mr. Custance says that he is a little Man, but well-spoken of in London and elsewhere.¹

March 15, Thursday. . . . Rec^d for Butter this Morn' at 11^d, 3. 2½. Mrs.:Custance continues still better, thank God! Nancy had a Letter from her Aunt Jⁿ Wood-forde by Mr. Custance's Servant who brought it from Norwich. All our Friends in the Country tolerably

¹ Charles Manners-Sutton (1755–1828) was a grandson of the third Duke of Rutland, his father being Lord George Manners-Sutton. He was educated at Charterhouse, and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he took his degree as fifteenth Wrangler in 1777. He was ordained, and after a few years as pluralist country parson in two family livings, he was made Dean of Peterborough in 1791. His next promotion was to the Bishopric of Norwich, to which was added the Deanery of Windsor *in commendam* in 1794. In 1805 he became Archbishop of Canterbury. He appears to have been a man of considerable ability and exemplary piety. ‘He was of imposing appearance’, says his biographer in the *D.N.B.*, ‘liberal almost to a fault, very accessible and affable to his clergy, and exemplary in his domestic life.’ His chief title to remembrance is his association with the great movement for educating the children of the poor promoted by the National Society, of which he may be regarded as one of the founders. A high-churchman he consistently opposed catholic emancipation, but supported the claims of Dissenters for relief from various legal disabilities. His wife was Mary, daughter of Thomas Thornton, and they had the normal eighteenth-century family of twelve children, of whom ten were daughters.

I find a very amusing story told by Wheatley (in a foot-note to p. 35, vol. iii, of his admirable edition of Wraxall’s *Memoirs*) apropos of Bishop Manners-Sutton’s promotion to the Primacy. It appears that Pitt desired the appointment for his old tutor and friend Dr. Pretyman, Bishop of Lincoln. But George III burst out, ‘No, No, No; must have a gentleman at Canterbury.’ A rather different story is told by Lord Rosebery in his *Pitt*, p. 248, George III calling upon Bishop Manners-Sutton at the Deanery at Windsor during his dinner, and appointing him.

well, which we were very glad to hear of. Dinner to day boiled Pork and a fine rost Turkey.

March 17, Saturday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne's Maid Betty England came (in her Master's one Horse Chaise and a Servant Man with her) to our House this Morning and stayed more than an Hour with us. She heard from her Master, who is now at Ely, last Wednesday he is very well, but continually harrassed by Company. . . .

March 19, Monday. . . . To an old Fisherman of Cawston by name Brown for some Skaite at 3^d per lb, pd, 2. o. To a QR. of a Peck of black Muscles of Do. pd, o. 3. Nancy took a Walk this Morning being fine to Weston-House to see Mrs. Custance. She had not been there long before Mrs. Miles Branthwaite of Taverham called there on the same Occasion, and very genteely and politely brought Nancy home in her Carriage from Weston House, after staying there abt. an Hour. Nancy had Betty to walk up with her. Mrs. Branthwaite put Nancy down at the Gate. Poor Mrs. Custance near the same as she has long been. . . .

March 20, Tuesday. . . . It being a fine Morning I went out a coursing with my People. Nancy also went in her little new Cart with Briton. I walked, Ben and the Boy were on horseback. I drove Nancy home. We coursed 3. Hares, killed only one. This Hare weighed 9 Pound. Two out of the 3. were found on France Green and the other in a ploughed Field adjoining. We tried first of all, Ringland Brakes, found nothing. Dinner to day, Skaite, boiled Beef and rost Fowl.

March 21, Wednesday. . . . Our Apricot Trees much hurt by the Frost and cold Winds. Their Blossoms appear to be burnt up. . . .

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March 24, Saturday. . . I privately baptized an Infant of Js. Attertons by name Elizabeth, this Morn' at my House. Sent Briton with my old little Cart early this morning to Norwich after Newspapers &c. Briton returned between 4. and 5. this Afternoon. He was rather later than usual as he stayed to see one Will^m Anthony hanged on the Castle Hill to day at Norwich condemned this Week at the Assizes at Thetford for poisoning a young Woman who was with Child by him. Nancy walked part of the way to Weston House this morning to see Mrs. Custance, but was obliged to return on Account of Rain. Mr. Du Quesnes Maid Betty sent Nancy by Js. Atterton a large Pot of Honey this Afternoon. Gave James for bringing it 1^s. 0^d.

March 28, Wednesday. . . Rec^d for one Pint of Butter this Morn', o. 11 which was made last Week, but expecting Mr. and Mrs. Bodham this Week we kept the above Pint till this Morning, and they not coming and we not wanting it sold it to Mr. Cary. We had laid in a fine Hare, a fine Turkey, Salt Fish, Beef a great Quantity, Leg of Veal. Seville and China Oranges of each one Dozen &c. against their coming to us. Dinner Salt Fish and a fine Hare rosted.

March 29, Thursday. . . I privately named a Child this morning at my house of one Ben. Carpenter of East-Tuddenham by name Benjamin. Mr. Du Quesne being still at Ely I therefore did it for him. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. Custance, Lady Bacon and Mr. Press Custance. Mrs. Custance somewhat better but still not able to sit up in bed without great Assistance and then not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour. Nancy and Lady Bacon went up to her after dinner and stayed till Tea and after Tea they went up again and stayed till 8 o'clock. Mrs. Custance

was cheerful Nancy says—It is even now supposed that it will be near three Months before she will be able to put her feet to the ground. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us and we returned in it. We had for Dinner some boiled Skaite, a rost Leg of Mutton hashed Calfs Head, a Calfs Heart rosted, Gravey Soup, Patties &c. 2nd Course, Fricasseed Sweet-breads, Turkey rosted, rice Pudding, collared Eel, Tarts &c. Rec'd for 4 Pints and half of Butter at 11^d, 4. 1½.

March 30, Friday. . . . Ben. Spurgeon, Collar-Maker at Lenewade Bridge, dined as well as breakfasted with our folks being at work for me, it being usual.

March 31, Saturday. . . . About 11. o'clock this Morning Mr. Taswell of Aylesham and Master Edm^d Bacon his Pupil, eldest Son of Sr. Edm^d Bacon, came to my House in an one-Horse-Chaise and they dined and spent part of the Aft. with us. Before Dinner I took a Walk to Mr. Jeanes's of Witchingham with Mr. Taswell, left Master Bacon at his Uncle's Mr. Custance a fishing stayed about half an Hour with Mrs. Jeanes, (Mr. Jeanes being rode out we did not see him) returned to Weston Parsonage, calling Master Bacon in our return back to go home with us. Mr. Taswell with Master Bacon left us ab^t 5 o'clock this Afternoon and went of for Aylesham. . . .

April 3, Tuesday. . . . It being a fine morning took a Walk with Nancy to Weston-House, and whilst she was with Mrs. Custance I took a Walk in Mr. Custance's Garden and Plantations for an Hour, then called for Nancy and we walked home to dinner. Mrs. Custance very finely to day and in high Spirits. Mr. Custance we did not see being gone to Norwich. It gave me great Pleasure that Mrs. Custance was so much better. Pray God she might continue so to do

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every Day. Had her Cloaths on to day and sat up three Q^{rs}. of an Hour but with Assistance.

April 6, G[ood] Friday. . . . It being Good-Friday I read Prayers this Morn' at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church and also Mr. Jeanes of Witchingham who came in at the Litany and sat in my Seat in the Chancel.

April 7, Saturday. . . . We made Mr. Du Quesne a Visit this Morning found him very ill indeed but up and very low. He returned from Ely Thursday last and very bad. We stayed about an Hour with him and left him poorly. Briton drove Nancy over in my Curriicle and I walked there and back again. N.B. Neither asked to eat or drink at Mr. Du Quesnes. Billy Bidewell brought our Papers from Norwich.

April 8, Easter-Day. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston Church. Had a great many Communicants. Mr. Custance one of them. Gave for an Offering at the Sacrament o. z. 6. My old Clerk Js. Smith dined with our Folks . . .

April 12, Thursday. . . . Nancy walked up with Betty this Morning to Weston-House to see Mrs. Custance. She returned home to dinner, left Mrs. Custance near the same as when she saw her last. Mrs. Custance extremely glad to see Nancy. Mr. and Mrs. Thorne called at Weston Parsonage this Morn' in their Whiskey, during Nancy being at Weston House, therefore did not get out of their Whiskey nor stay long talking with me, but wished Nancy to spend a few Days with them soon. Mem. Betsy Davy is at present at Mr. Thornes, but neither Mr. or Mrs. Thorne mentioned one word of her being there. Mrs. Thorne I do not much admire. Mr. Priest of Reepham and

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Mr. Jeanes dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Mr. Priest came in his Chariot from Mr. Du Quesnes who was invited also to dine here but was not well enough however is much better than he has been. Mr. Du Quesne took a ride with Mr. Priest to his Dr. Mr. Wright of Mattishall this morning and at Mr. Thornes Mr. Priest saw Betsy Davy with a young Man with her supposed to be her intended one Saml. Burcham Son of the Brewer Burcham. We had for Dinner to day a large Piece of boiled Beef, a prodigious fine Cock Turkey (which weighed sixteen Pounds) rosted, Damson Tarts and Rasberry Puffs. Mrs. Custance on hearing that we had Company sent us a very nice Pike about two o'clock very kind indeed of her, it was too late for Dinner. Both Mr. Priest and Mr. Jeanes being very fond of Turkey made a very hearty Dinner from it. Rec^d this Evening for 5 Pints of Butter, 4. 7. It was like a Mid-summer Day to day, so hot.

April 13, Friday. . . . Quite Summer-like Weather. Dinner a fine Pike boiled and Veal-Cutlets. Gave my Boy Billy Downing, he having been a very good lad and of most good natured turn and having asked Leave to go to Norwich with his Mother to Morrow-Morning to buy a Pair of Breeches &c. gave him this Even' 5. 0.

April 14, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewell's Wife brought our News-Papers. My Boy Downing walked about 5 o'clock to Norwich with his Móther, returned ab^t 7. in the Ev[ening].

April 15, Sunday. . . . Poor Mrs. Custance continues near the same. I read Prayers and Preached and christned a Child of Curzons this Afternoon at Weston Church, it had been privately named by me

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before, Sarah. Mr. Custance at Church, and a large Congregation. The Elsing Singers sung at Weston Church this Afternoon and tolerably well indeed. I gave them by way of encouragement, 2. 6. Dinner to day, boiled Skaite and Oyster Sauce, and a Leg of Mutton rosted &c. We did not dine to day till half past 4 in the Aft. At 6 walked again to Church and buried poor old Patience Allen, a Widow, aged, 77 Years. Nancy had a Note this Evening from Mrs. Bodham and if agreeable they will dine with us on Wednesday next, but cannot sleep here.

April 18, Wednesday. . . . Married Will^m Woodcock and Anne Mayse this morning at Weston Church by Banns. Rec^d for the above (having had 2/6 before) only, 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham of Mattishall and with them a Miss Dade whom we never saw, dined and spent the Afternoon with us by appointment tho' indeed it was a dreadful, wet, windy Day. We had for Dinner some boiled Beef, Peas-Soup, Mutton Stakes, a long Currant Pudding &c. 3 Spring Chicken and Asparagus, Damson Tarts &c. They left us soon after Coffee and Tea.

April 23, Monday. . . . Our old Apparitor Thos. Roberson called here about Dinner time to inform me that the Arch-Deacons Visitation would be held at Reepham on Friday the 18th day of May next. The Arch-Deacon purposes to attend at the same. The Apparitor dined with our Folks in Kitchen. He was 79. Years of Age this very day. Dinner to day, Gravye Soup and Shoulder Veal rosted. Mr. Thorne called here on horseback this morning but did not get of, pressed Nancy very much to spend a few days at Mattishall with Mrs. Thorne but never the least word of invitation to me &c. Mrs. Custance we heard to

day was very finely. Saw the first Swallow this Season. I privately baptized a Child this Morn' of John Leeds, by name Anne. Nancy's Pigg killed Weight ab^t 8 St[one].

April 24, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Jeanes called here this morning in his way to Mr. Du Quesnes, but did not dismount. A most gracious and gentle Rain in the Afternoon. Had a Tub of Gin brought this Evening.

April 26, Thursday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston-House with only Mr. Custance at dinner with us. We drank Coffee and Tea in the Octagon Room alias Mrs. Custances dressing Room, and Mrs. Custance being finely drank Tea with us, she looks very well considering her long Confinement. Tho' she is now able to sit up in a Chair, yet she cannot walk a step with out great Assistance. This is the first time that I have seen her for the last four Months, No Gentlemen besides those of the Families have as yet been admitted to her presence, I was the first. Mr. Custance sent his Coach after us, but it being fine Weather I walked thither and back. Nancy had a long Letter from her Brother Will^m. Paid Mrs. Custance this Afternoon my Subscription-Money for Penn's Sermons, 2. Vol. Octavo, o. 12. o.¹

April 27, Friday. . . . Sent Mrs. Jeanes a Couple of fat Spring Chicken by Winfred, as she cannot get any.

¹ Presumably James Penn (1727-1800), a Church of England Divine who wrote tracts and sermons, some of which, says his biographer in the *D.N.B.*, 'show considerable humour and satirical power'. Judging by their titles they certainly would seem to deserve this moderate praise: thus 'By way of Prevention; a Sleepy Sermon, calculated for the Dog-days, with an Address to the Clergy and another to the Laity of the City of London'; 'The Reasonableness of Repentance, with a Dedication to the Devil, and an Address to the Candidates for Hell' (the Dedication to the Devil begins: 'Tremendous Sir').

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Sent Mr. Jeanes by the same Hand a black-Pudding.
Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Aft. with us
He made a Visit to Weston-House before Dinner.
Paid Mr. Emeris this Evening, half Years Poor-Rate at
 10^d , in the Pound, 1. 5. $2\frac{1}{2}$. Mr. Du Quesne looked
but poorly, thin and very weak. He eat however very
hearty and drank much small-Beer. . . .

May 1st, Tuesday. I breakfasted at home. Nancy
breakfasted at home. After breakfast we went to
Norwich in our little Curriole. Briton went with us.
I walked seven Miles of the way and Briton walked the
rest. We were about 3. Hours going to Norwich, got
there about Noon. We dined, supped and slept at
the Kings Head in the Market-Place. We had for
Dinner some fresh Salmon &c. This being May Day
on which the Mayor of this City is elected, there was
a large Company at Dinner at the Kings Head, St.
Peters Bells ringing. Before and after Dinner I walked
about the City and paid many Bills as undermen-
tioned—

To Mr. Priest Sen^r for Wine &c., paid 17. 11. 0.

To Mr. Capon Jun^r for the Executors of the late Mr.
Whistler Painter, paid 1. 1. 0. At the Stamp-Office
in Bethel-Street for two Years Duty on Births,
Burials &c., pd. o. 11. 9.¹ To Mr. Buckle, Ironmonger,
paid 3. 4. 10. To Foster, Taylor, paid 1. 14. 0. To
Scott, Breeches-Maker, paid 1. 1. 0. To Browne,
Barber, paid, 1. 1. 0. To Manning, Brazier, paid
o. 18. 6.

May 2, Wednesday. We breakfasted, supped and slept
again at the K[ings] Head. We had the two best
Chambers to sleep in and very handsome they were,
both very fine white Dimity Furniture, very full and

¹ See foot-note, pp. 96-7, vol. ii.

fringed. Walked about Norwich all the morning, shopping and paying Bills. To Wilmot, Hatter, pd. 1. 1. 0. To Smith, Mercer, paid 1. 15. 0.
 To Steward, Attorney, Coll. Pension pd. 1. 12. 0
 To Ditto Procurations &c. pd.. . 0. 9. 7½
 To Ditto Widows Subscriptions pd.. 1. 1. 0
 To Mrs. Brewster for Tea &c. paid, . 4. 19. 0
 To W^m Foster, Clerk to Mr. Bloome, for
 Coal pd. 9. 12. 10
 Of W^m Foster, for Corn rec^d . . 25. 8. 9
 So that I rec^d on the balance . . 15. 15. 11
 To Sudbury, Upholsterer, for a Bed-tick
 pd. 1. 2. 0
 At Nosworthy's Shop for an Umbrella ¹
 &c. pd. 0. 18. 6
 Between 2. and 3. o'clock we walked to Mr. John Priest's, and there we dined and spent the Aft. with Mrs. Jⁿ Priest, Mr. Priest Sen^r a Mrs. Patty Neale an old Maid, and a Mrs. Clarke from London. We had a very handsome Dinner indeed, some fresh Salmon, green Goose, fore Qr. of Lamb roasted, baked plumb Pudding, Custards &c. After Coffee and Tea at Mr. Priests ab^t 6 o'clock took an Hackney Coach and drove to the Theatre and Nancy with me, and there saw the Tragedy of Hamlet and the new Entertainment called the spoiled Child, a droll thing enough. It was Miss Edmeads Benefit, and the fullest House I ever was at there. It amounted to 78. 0. 0 Miss Edmead performed her parts in both very well. She acted the Part of Hamlet, and young Pickle in the farce. We walked from the Theatre to the Kings Head were caught in the Rain, called in at the White Swan, had some warm Rum and Water, sent Briton

¹ See foot-note, p. 300, vol. ii.

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after our Umbrella, and then walked to our Inn. For the Rum and Water at the Swan, pd. o. o. 6. Gave Briton to go to the Play, 1. o. We did not get to bed till after one o'clock.

May 3, Thursday. We breakfasted at the Kings Head and spent all the Morning at Norwich, set out for Weston ab^t 2. At Thwaites, Linen-Draper for 23 yards of Irish Linnen for Shirts at 3/o per Yrd. pd. 3. 9. o. At Ditto for Diaper for Night-Caps 5 y^{rds} at 1^s/6^d, which will make half a Dozen, p^d o. 7. 6. At Thwaites' also, for Russia Towelling for Dish Cloths &c. 12 Yards, p^d o. 5. 6. At Bacons, Bookseller, paid a Bill of o. 7. o. Lent Nancy, this Morning, in Cash o. 5. o. At late Cook's Glass-Shop, now kept by one Rix & Co. for one Dozen of new fashioned common Wine Glasses at 14^d each, paid o. 14. o. Paid also for a Basket for Package o. o. 6. To Oranges and other odd matters p^d ab^t o. o. 6. Gave Watson at the Post-Office his Xmas Box, o. 2. 6. Gave Frank, my Barber at the Kings Head, do. o. 1. o. Gave Ditto. for shaving &c. o. 1. 6. Paid Mr. Mountenay at the Kings Head for ourselves and one Horse 2. Nights 1. 10. 5. Gave to Servants there o. 8. o. Packed up our things and about 2. o'clock set off for Weston as we came. Briton drove the Curriole without St. Giles's Gate and there stopped till we walked thither which was very soon after, and then Nancy got in with Briton and I walked on for 3. Miles, then Briton walked and I drove and at Ringland I walked over the brakes for home, got home before the Curriole but a very little time. About five o'clock we got to Weston Parsonage. Got to Dinner as soon as possible on Souse¹ and Eggs. And as we dined so very late we had Tea and Toast

¹ Souse is pickled pig's feet and ears (see N.E.D.).

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for Supper, got to bed about 11 o'clock rather fatigued, thank God all safe and well.

May 4. . . . To James Pegg paid this morning a Q^{rs} Land Tax and the half Years Taxes, in all, 7. 16. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$. Killed near an 100 Rats and Mice this morning in my Barn by my Dogs, on removing some Wheat. . . .

May 7, Monday. . . . Mrs. Custance being some-small-matter better and Master John Custances Birth-Day which was Yesterday but kept to day at Weston-House. There was a frolic given to the Servants &c. at Weston House this Afternoon Tea and Supper &c. Our Servants were invited, Betty and Briton went about 5 in the Afternoon and stayed till 11. at Night. Very few besides our Servants there, Mr. and Mrs. Girling. Mr. Press Custances Servants were the Chief invited. Our People said they never were at a better frolic.

May 13, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, read five Briefs and christned three Children this Aft. at Weston Church. Had a very large Congregation at Church. Mr. Custance at Church as was Nancy. Mrs. Custance (thank God) daily getting better. Dreadful Disturbances in France. War declared by France against the Emperor of Germany. There has been a Battle between them in w^{ch} the French ran away and was terribly beaten.¹ Dinner to day,

¹ On April 20, 1792, France declared war on Francis II, king of Hungary and Bohemia, the successor of Leopold but not yet elected Holy Roman Emperor. For months past the war had been brewing owing, in brief, to the utter incompatibility of the policy and practice of Revolutionary France with the cause of European monarchy. The Austrian Government early in 1792 in a dispatch to the French Government stigmatized the Revolution, and its humiliation of the monarchy. Prussian and Austrian troops in alliance with the French Emigrés were mustered for war, urged on secretly by Marie Antoinette. The French attempted to invade Belgium, but met with disaster, and one column rushed back to Lille,

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Maccarel for the first time this Season and a Shoulder of Veal roasted.

May 15, Tuesday. . . . Betty went with her Aunt Grey from Weston House this morning on foot to Mattishall Gant [Gaunt alias Jaunt] alias Fair. She has leave to sleep at her Mothers to Night. To Mr. Aldridge for 7. Yards of Purple-Cotton for a Morning Gown at $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per Yrd pd. o. 15. 2. To Ditto. for 7. Y^{rds} of White Cotton for a Lining, p^d o. 9. 4. To Ditto for half a Yrd of fine Cambrick, p^d o. 5. 6. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted &c.

May 16, Wednesday. . . . My poor old Horse, Punch, that had been bad for a long time and now unable to get up was shot by Ben this Morning to put him out of his Misery, no shadow of his being better. I drove Nancy to Mr. Jeanes this morning and returned home to dinner. In our return home we were caught by the Rain and much wetted. Rec^d for Butter this Evening 5 Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ at 11^d, 5. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. We saw Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes, Miss Lloyd and Mrs. Jeanes Brother Mr. Springer. We were much pressed to dine but we had ordered it otherwise. . . .

May 18, Friday. . . . I carried my Niece to Reep-ham in my little Curricule and sat her down at Mr.

murdering its general. The imminent danger to France precipitated a crisis in the capital (we carry on the story for the sake of completeness, and because Parson Woodforde does not again refer to France till September). The Girondin ministry pressed Louis to sign a decree banishing the non-juring clergy. Louis refused and dismissed the ministry. The mob invaded the Tuilleries and forced the king to assume the cap of liberty, but he declined to revoke his veto. The Tuilleries outrage provoked the famous declaration of July 25 issued by the Duke of Brunswick, holding Paris responsible for the king's safety. Paris, led by the Jacobins under Danton, Marat, and Robespierre, answered by deposing Louis and imprisoning him on Aug. 10. (Lord Acton's *Lectures on the French Revolution*, ch. xiii–xv, and Morse Stephens's *Revolutionary Europe*, ch. iii.)

Priests where she dined and spent the Afternoon. The Generals being this Day at Reepham I dined at the Kings Arms with the following Clergy. The Arch Deacon, Mr. Younge, Mr. Jewel, Preacher, Mr. Priest, Reader, Mr. Astley, Mr. Whitmell, Mr. Bryant Senr., Mr. Bryant Jun^r, Mr. Bell, Mr. Watts, Mr. Taswell, Mr. Bulwer, Mr. Norris, Mr. Jeanes, Mr. Maynard and Mr. Churchill, Mr. Morphew and a young Gentleman brought by Mr. Jewel, Mr. Addy and Mr. Holley both of Aylesham dined with us also. Ordinary and extraordinary, 3. 6. A very plain Dinner indeed not enough, some very stale Cod, half a Rump of Beef rosted, a Couple of Chicken over-rosted, a Pigs face, a Knuckle of Veal boiled sent in last of all. Plum Pudding and plain very little of either. About 4. the Arch Deacon left us and about half an Hour after I walked with Mr. Priest to his house and there drank Tea with Mrs. Priest, Miss Priest, Miss Mary and Miss Sally Priest, three Miss Sendalls, Miss Woodforde, Mr. Priest and Mr. Jeanes. At 6. o'clock I drove Nancy to Mr. Jeanes and there left her to spend a day or two with Mrs. Jeanes and Miss Lloyd who is there. I then drove home and got home before 8 o'clock and I thank God safe and well. Master Bacon was at the Generals with Taswall but did not dine with us, he dined at Mr. Wymers. The Weather was very unpromising when we first sallied forth in the Morning and was over-taken in Weston Great Field by a Storm of Rain with rough Wind, but it did not continue long. We fared very well afterwards all Day. There was but very few Ladies at Church to day.

May 21, Monday. . . . Sent Briton this Evening after Nancy in my new little Curridge, she returned safe and well ab^t 8 o'clock, she met with a Storm on her

Journey. She supped and slept at home. She gave me a worse description than ever of the bad management in Mr. Jeanes House and dirtier than ever. Had not Miss Lloyd been there Nancy would not have liked it at all. Mrs. Jeanes more affected. Miss Lloyd told Nancy that she could not endure being there, as she is treated by them like almost unto a Servant, being ordered about so—And as for Mrs. Jeanes Brother Springger she never saw or heard so poor a *Honey*.¹ Dinner to day rost Shoulder of Mutton &c.

May 23, Wednesday. . . . Lent my Maid, Winfred, to buy a Gown, 1. 1. 0. Gave to Dalliday of France-Green losing a Horse 5. 0. Rec^d for Butter this Evening at 10^d per Pint, 5. 0. To a travelling Man and Woman who sold all kinds of trifling Books &c—Robinson Crusoe—2^s/6^d—The Life of Bampfield More Carew 2^s/0^d²—Complete Fortune Teller—9^d—Laugh and grow fat 6^d, in all 5. 9. Nancy bought a smelling Bottle of them. Nancy also bought a very handsome coloured Callico Gown of a travelling People by name Burdon from London, this Afternoon for which she paid 2. 10. 0. Mr. Custance gone to Lady Durrants at

¹ *Honey* is a term of endearment as old as Chaucer (see *N.E.D.*). Nancy evidently had her uncle's faculty for expressing herself with mild, and compendious irony.

² Bamfylde Moore Carew (1693–1770 ?) was king of the gypsies, and son of a Devonshire country parson. He ran away to the gypsies when he was a schoolboy, and henceforth spent a roving life crammed with adventure: elopement with the daughter of a Newcastle apothecary, election as king of the gypsies, transportation to Maryland as an idle vagrant, rescue by Indians, masquerade as a Quaker in Pennsylvania, return to England, nearly impressed for the Navy but escapes by simulating infection from small-pox. He is said to have joined Prince Charles Edward in the '45, and eventually to have been lucky in one of the State lotteries, and thereafter retired from adventure. An account of his life and adventures first appeared in 1745, and reappeared in later years in a variety of forms (see *D.N.B.*).

Scottow. Mrs. Custance not quite so well the last two or three Days, perhaps owing to the Weather being very cold.

May 26, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich on Phyllis after News-Papers, Fish &c. He returned about 2 o'clock, brought home some Maccarel &c. He carried poor Punch's Skin to Norwich to sell sold it for 9^s/0^d, which I gave to him and Boy. Ben gave the Boy out of the Skin 3^s/0^d.

May 28, Monday. . . . Merry Doings at the Heart—being Whit-Monday. Sir Edm^d and Lady Bacon expected at Weston-H[ouse]. Mrs Custance still mending tho' slowly. Dinner Calfs Feet stewed, hash Mutton &c.

May 29, Tuesday. . . . Being Whit-Tuesday, Weston Purse-Club took their annual perambulation, with Musick and Flag flying.¹ They called at my House and I gave them, o. 10. 6. Rec^d for Butter to day at 9^d o. 4. 10. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. Custance, Mrs. Green, Miss Lobb and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Du Quesne called here in his Carriage about half past 2. and took Nancy to Weston House and brought her back in the Evening. I walked thither and back tho' Mr. Custance wished much to send his Coach after us. We had for Dinner a fine Pike, Saddle of Mutton rosted, Cream Soup, Couple of boiled Chicken and a Tongue, Veal Collops and Patties. 2nd Course rost Pigeons, green Goose &c. &c. We returned home about 9 o'clock. We all drank Coffee and Tea in the Octagon Room with Mrs. Custance, who was very cheerful and (I thank God) appeared much better, able to stand. On my return home a tolerable well dressed Man as I was walking

¹ See foot-notes, pp. 192 and 331-2, preceding.

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up my Yard addressed me and requested the favour of me to let his Horse be in my Stable to night. His Name was Oakly an entire Stranger to me, but on Enquiry found him to be related by Marriage to our Neighbour Downing's Wife having married her Niece. He keeps a School and a little Shop about five Miles from Lynn. His Wife is also at Downings. I readily gave him Leave to have his Horse here.

May 30, Wednesday. . . . Great Rejoicings at Weston House &c. Bells ringing, Guns-firing &c. on Account of Mrs. Custance coming down Stairs for the first time for the last 5 Months. I gave my People on the Occasion a bottle of Gin to drink this Evening in Kitchen. I am most heartily glad that Mrs. Custance is so much recovered, hope she wont make too free. Dinner to Day boiled Chicken and Oyster Sauce, a Pigs Face, cold Loin of Veal rosted &c.

May 31, Thursday. . . . Gave my Boy Downing leave to go and see the Poney-Race at Lenewade Bridge gave him also (as he has been painting my Pales) to lay out o. i. o. . . .

June 1, Friday. . . . My Study, Kitchen and Back Kitchen Chimnies swept. I took a Walk this morning with Nancy to Weston House and spent an Hour with Mrs. Custance and then I walked home Leaving Nancy to dine there. Dinner to day boiled Beef and mince Veal. In the Evening walked up to Weston House after Nancy and there drank Coffee and Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and my Niece. Mrs. Custance so well to day as to go down Stairs to dinner and to walk up also after dinner, great things. We had a very pleasant Walk home, About $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8. Mr. Custance walked part of the way back with us.

June 2, Saturday. . . . Great Numbers of Caterpillars

about this Year. Dinner to day, boiled Calfs Head and rost Leg of Mutton. Mr. Cary brought our News-Papers from Norwich and likewise two Letters, one for Nancy from her Brother Sam¹ and one for me from my Sister Pounsett, acquainting me that her Daughter was in London at Mr. Webbs, had been there 3 Weeks desiring us also to come into Somersett and take her Daughter with us from London, but Mrs. Custance being so poorly and her last Child not as yet publickly baptized, cannot fix at present any time.

June 6, Wednesday. . . . I walked this morning to Francis Clarkes on Oldham Green and read Prayers by him, being entirely helpless owing to his falling out of a Cart when loaded with Thorns, every Nerve almost strained to a violent degree. His Appetite very good and not much fever. Dinner to day Maccarel, boiled Pork and Greens and a rost Rabbit. Maccarel to day 4^d a piece, bought six. They are very scarce and have been so as yet.

June 9, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben this morning to Norwich with my little old Cart and Rodney in it, after News &c. Sent by him also a Letter to my Sister Pounsett, in Answer to her last, acquainting [her] that we cannot go into Somersett yet, Mrs. Custance's last Child not being as yet christned publickly. Ben returned about 4 o'clock this Aft. No Letters. Rodney went exceedingly well in the Cart. Dinner to day Calfs Fry and Leg Mutton rosted.

June 12, Tuesday. . . . Maccarel to day at 2½^d, plenty about. I gave to each of my Washerwomen one and sent one to John Heavers who is very ill. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance only, they sent a Note in the

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morning requesting the same. Mrs. Custance walked quite steady to day with her 2 Sticks, and looks finely. Dinner at Weston House Maccarel, green Peas, Pigeon Pye, rost Beef and gooseberry Tarts.

June 15, Friday. . . . Miss Rebeccah Priest alias Miss Priest of Reepham, came to us this morning before we had been down Stairs and she breakfasted, dined and spent the Afternoon with us, we expected her Yesterday but not to day. We were very glad to see her. She is a very good kind of young Woman, sensible and agreeable without any Affectation whatever. We had for Dinner boiled Calfs Head and Pigs face, a Piece of rost Beef and a Gooseberry Pudding. About 6 o'clock in Afternoon Mr. Priest with his two Sons Willm. and Charles from Windham School joined us and drank Tea with us, and about 7. they all sat off with Miss Priest for Reepham. Mr. Custance sent us a Cucumber this morning.

June 17, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and churched Mrs. Custance this Afternoon at Weston-Church. The first time of Mrs. Custance being at Church since December last, having been so long ill, she is still very weak, not able to go without a Stick. Mr. Custance at Church and 3 eldest Sons and both Daughters.

June 20, Wednesday. . . . We went this Morning in my new Curriicle to Mattishall and dined with Mr. and Mrs. Bodham by appointment, little Miss Donne was there. We called at Mr. Du Quesnes going to Mattishal[1] we did not get out, only chatted with him at the Door. It rained most part of the Day at times and very cold. We were very lucky (thank God) both going there and coming back, very little Rain we met with. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham pressed us much

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to sleep there. We had for Dinner a boiled Leg Mutton and Capers, a Couple of Ducklings rosted, mince Veal and Tarts. After Coffee and Tea about 7. o'clock we left Mattishall. We tryed Rodney at first in the Curriicle but we were obliged very soon to take him out.

June 21, Thursday. . . . Rec^d a Letter this morning by Mr. Custances Servant from my Niece Jane Pounsett who is still in London. She does not say one Word ab^t her Cousin Sam. Woodforde. It was so cold and cloudy this morning (tho' the longest Day in the Year) that we had a fire in the Study almost as soon as we came down Stairs. . . .

June 22, Friday. . . . The three eldest Master Custances with Master Bacon spent an Hour with us this Afternoon. S^r Edm^d and Lady Bacon at Weston House.¹ Rec^d for 3 Pints and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Butter at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$. Dinner to day a boiled Chicken and Bacon and a Leg of Mutton rosted and Gooseberry Pye. Mrs. Custance last Child (Charlotte) is I hear to be publickly presented in the Church Tuesday next.

June 25, Monday. . . . Rafling for a Gown this Evening at the Heart both my Maids went, but returned without Gown.

June 26, Tuesday. . . . Begun cutting my Clover being a fine Day. Mr. Du Quesne called here about 11 o'clock in his Whiskey, did not get out, as he was going to Reepham. A little before 12 I walked to Church and publickly presented Miss Charlotte Custance in the Church—present Mr. and Mrs. Custance with all their eight Children, and Lady Bacon, the Sponsors were represented by their Proxies Lady Bacon for Miss Hickman, Mrs. Custance for Mrs. George Beauchamp,

¹ For the Bacons see foot-note, p. 233, vol. i.

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and Mr. Custance for Mr. Will^m Beauchamp. Immediately after the Ceremony Mr. Custance very genteelly presented me with a five Guinea Note from Gurney's Bank at Norwich. We dined and spent the Afternoon at Weston-House with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Lady Bacon and Mrs. Press Custance. We went and returned in the Coach. Dinner boiled Tench, Peas Soup, a Couple of boiled Chicken and Pigs Face, hashed Calfs Head, Beans, and roasted Rump of Beef with New Potatoes &c. 2nd Course roasted Duck and green Peas, a very fine Leveret roasted, Strawberry Cream, Jelly, Puddings &c. Desert—Strawberries, Cherries and last Years nonpareils. About 7. o'clock after Coffee and Tea we got to Cards to limited Loo at which, lost 0. 6. Send Briton to Norwich this Morning to put a Letter into the Post-Office, an answer to my Niece Pounsetts. In his return I rec^d another from her in Town fearing that her first Letter did not arrive, still pressing us much to go to London and return with her to Cole.

June 30, Saturday. . . . My Maid Winfred went to Reepham Fair yesterday Morn' and returned home about 4 this Afternoon. Her Mother lives at Witchingham. My Newspapers came by Billy Bidewell's People.

July 1, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. Custance with his five eldest Children at Church, as was also Miss Woodforde. Mrs. Custance not at Church being not quite so well. Had a pretty large Congregation at Church. Dinner to day boiled Beef and Greens, Sparrow Pudding and Neck of Veal roasted and Damson Pudding.

July 2, Monday. . . . A County Meeting to be held this Day at Norwich to Consider of an Address to his

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Majesty on his late Proclamation to prevent seditious publications &c. . .¹

July 3, Tuesday. . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their three eldest Sons came quite unexpectedly upon us this Afternoon and drank Tea with us, we were not full dressed. They stayed with us till after 8. by our Clock. Gave one of Harry Dunnells Boys for a young Plover 0^s. 6^d.

July 4, Wednesday. . . A Mr. Donne with my Maid Bettys Father called on Betty this morning and desired that she might go with them to Mattishall for one Night—granted. Mr. Donne is a Suffolk Farmer and his Son who died of a Consumption some few Years back was to have married Betty, therefore the Father much respects her. Dinner to day, rost Goose, boiled Pork &c.

¹ The king's Proclamation for preventing seditious meetings and writings was issued on May 21, 1792. It begins in this excellent way :

'Whereas divers wicked and seditious writings have been printed, published, and industriously dispersed, tending to excite tumult and disorder', and goes on to refer to the attempts thus made to vilify 'the wise and wholesome provisions made at the time of the glorious Revolution'; and whereas all this is most dangerous to the Constitution, the public peace and prosperity, and the authority of Parliament, now therefore we warn 'all our loving subjects' to discourage these practices, and we charge the magistrates to search out the authors and printers and dispersers of these wicked writings, and to maintain law and order at all costs. For we are determined for our part to preserve the peace, and 'to carry the laws rigourously into execution against such offenders as afforesaid'. Such is the gist of the Proclamation. (It is given in full among the State Papers quoted in the *Annual Register*, 1792, pp. 158–60.) The Proclamation was, of course, mainly directed against Paine's *Rights of Man*, Part II of which (the violent Republican and 'levelling' part) had been published on Feb. 17, 1792 : Part I had appeared on March 13, 1791. Large numbers of loyal addresses poured in to the king from all parts of the country ; Paine himself in his tediously long, but amusing in parts, *Letter to the Adressers*, admits that there were three hundred and twenty addresses in three months.

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July 6, Friday. . . . Busy in carrying my Hay to day,
Weather fine. Master Custance with his Brother
George called on us this morning, brought a new
fashioned Silver Thimble from their Mama as a
present to my Niece, very pretty one, Rec^d of Cary
for Butter 3 Pints $\frac{1}{2}$ at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$. Rec^d of Downing for
Butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ Pint, o. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. All my Hay carried to day,
9 bargains of it from 3 Acres and half, about 7.
Ton upon the whole. Dinner to day, rosted Leg
Mutton and Gooseberry Pye.

July 7, Saturday. . . . Carys People brought our News-
papers to day. Great News on the Papers from the
East-Indies, that Lord Cornwallis had made Tippoo
Sultan sue for Peace, after defeating him in many
Attacks.¹

July 8, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this
Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance with six of
his Children at Church. Miss Woodforde also there.

July 9, Monday. . . . Mem. A Stalk of Wheat (from
a Field that was formerly a Furze-Cover) I measured
this Morning, and it was in Length six feet seven
Inches and about a barley corn. Dinner to day Peas
and Pork and Leg Lamb boiled.

¹ Lord Cornwallis (1738–1805)—the victim of the surrender of Yorktown, see foot-note, p. 285, vol. i)—had gone out to India as Governor-General in 1786. In 1790 war broke out between the English and their native allies on the one side, and Tippoo Sahib, the ruler of Mysore, on the other. After a swaying struggle, for Tippoo Sahib was not only very powerful but very able, Cornwallis triumphed at Seringapatam, and brought the struggle to an end in March 1792. Tippoo Sahib had to pay an indemnity of £4,000,000 and to surrender half his dominions to the allies. Cornwallis was later Viceroy of Ireland (1798–1801) during the Union crisis, and resigned with Pitt when the king declined to grant the Irish Catholic Emancipation. (See Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vi, pp. 70–1, and Lord Rosebery's *Pitt*, p. 188 : Lord Rosebery speaks of 'the sterling splendour of his character').

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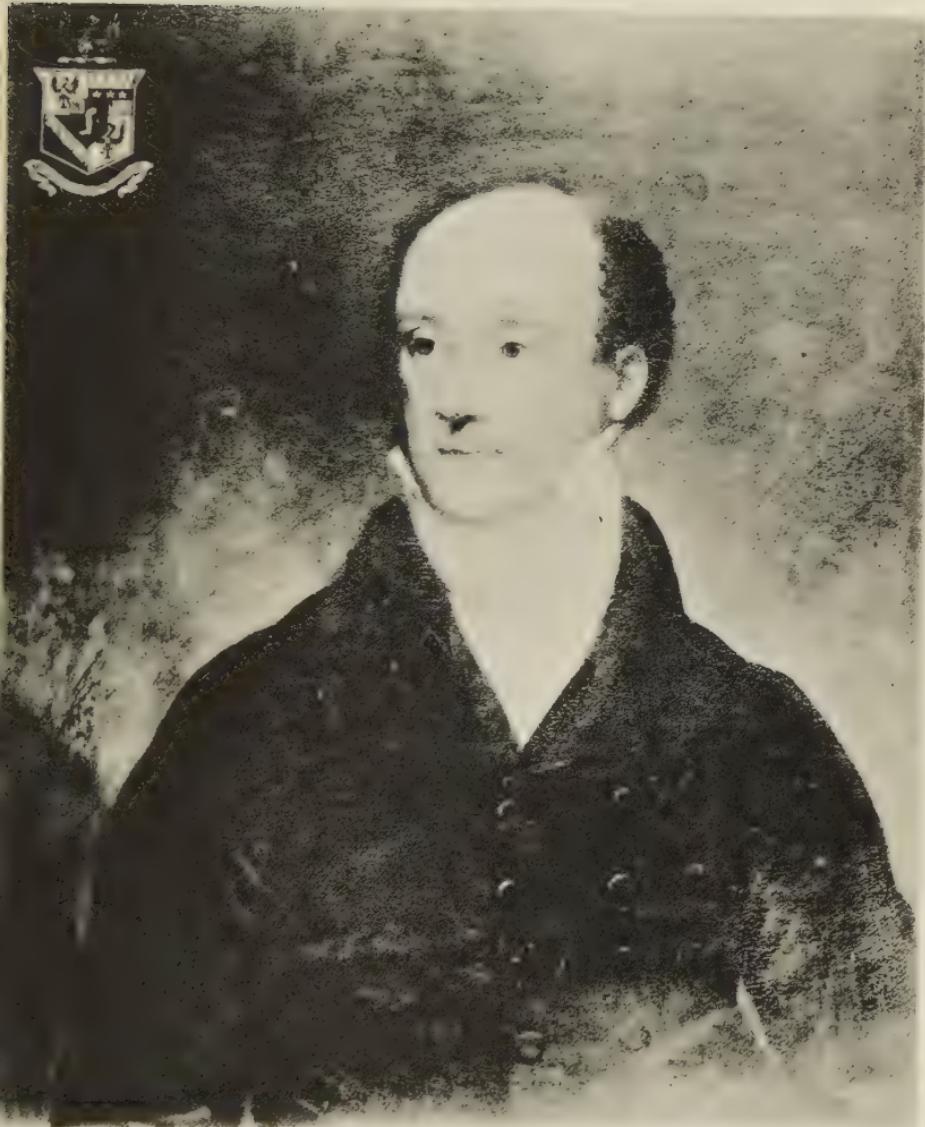
July 13, Friday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich on horseback, after some Fish for Dinner to day, he returned about 11. o'clock with some Soals. Mr. and Mrs. Custance, Mr. Press Custance, with Mr. Custance's 3. eldest Sons, Hambleton, George and William, and Du Quesne, dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We gave them for Dinner 6 pair of fryed Soal, a very fine Leg of Mutton rosted, boiled Ham and three Chicken, Beans a boiled plumb Pudding, and new Potatoes. 2nd. Course a Couple of rost Ducks and Peas. Berries Charter, Rasberry Cream, red Currant and Gooseberry Tarts and black Currant Tartlets. Desert, french Olives, Rasberries, Cherries, 3. sorts of Strawberries and White Currants, Mountain and Port Wines. After Coffee and Tea we got to Loo, won, 1. 6. Our Company left us between 8 and 9 in the Evening.

July 14, Saturday. . . . Dinner to Day Eels boiled and fryed, hot Mutton Pye and a rost Chicken with pickled Mushrooms. Bidewell's Wife brought our News Papers from Norwich as also a Letter for Nancy from her Brother Sam^l in London, informing her that he must put off coming into Norfolk till August.

July 15, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church. Elsing Singers at Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with six Children at Church. Miss Woodeforde also at Church. Dinner to day, Eels, and a fore-Qr. of Lamb rosted. Mem. St. Swithin remarkably fine.

July 20, Friday. . . . Master Hambleton Custance and his Brother William made us a Morning Visit, we gave them some Rasberries and Cream, and Cakes. . . .

July 21, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with my great Cart after Coal. It being very



HAMBLETON THOMAS CUSTANCE, ESQ.
(1779-1845), J.P., D.L.
(Norfolk)

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wet and windy, Ben did not return till 6 o'clock this Afternoon, wet through. Dinner to day boiled Beef, Lamb Pye and rost Duck. Nanny Spraggs late Anne Haye lately my Servant married to Will^m Spraggs, who lives in this Parish, was brought to bed this Evening after being in labour for a long time of a Child. She was all Day Yesterday and to day in labour. In the Evening I sent her some Oatmeal for Gruel a Bottle of Mountain Wine and in money, 2. 6. I hope poor Creature that she will do well. Gave Js. Smith bringing home a strayed Turkey Hen, last Night, that was got to Howletts, 0. 6.

July 23. . . . I privately baptized Nanny Spraggs Child this Morning at my own house, by name Mary Anne. Rec^d of Spraggs for $\frac{1}{2}$ Pint Butter at 9^d, 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Dinner to day Loin Veal rosted and Currant Pudding. Master Hambleton, George, and Will^m Custance called here in the Evening, had some fruit and Wine.

July 25, Wednesday. I breakfasted at home and then set off for Norwich. Nancy breakfasted at home and went with me to Nor[wich]. We went in our new Curriole and Briton on horseback. We got to Norwich by 10 o'clock or thereabouts and we dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head. At Beales, Fishmonger, paid a Bill 0. 4. 6. To a Blocked tin Snuff Box and Snuff 0. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$. We had some fine fryed Soals for Dinner and fine pickled Newcastle-Salmon for Supper. I called at John Priests this Evening but Nancy did not as it rained, saw him, his Wife &c.

July 26, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept at the Kings Head at Norwich, kept by Mountnoy. After breakfast went about shopping. At Nosworthys—for a very large Umbrella, 16. 0. At Ditto. for a Japan Spoon Tray, 4. 0.

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At Do. for Venice Soap 1. o.
At Do. for Shaving Brush and Powder Eugêne
2. o.
At Bakers for a Japan 3. pint Jug, 3. o.
At Scotts for a Pair of Gloves, 2. o.
For a coarse Basket and 4. small fruit Baskets, 1. 6.
To netting Twine &c. 4. 1.
To a pair of wooden Slippers for self, 1. o.
To 1. Dozen Sweet Oranges, Chamberlains 1. o.
To a Morocco Leather Note-book, 2. 6.
We dined on Soals, and supped on Pickle Salmon. We
had the two best bed Rooms to sleep in, and very
soundly we slept.

July 27, Friday. We breakfasted and spent the Morning at Norwich. After breakfast I walked with Nancy to Mr. Grahams Shop where they sell Ribband Silk Stockings &c. in Cockey Lane and there were detained some time by Rain. I bought a pair of black silk Stockings, pd, 12. o. From thence went to John Priests, Druggist, and there paid for Rhubarb, 1 oz. 2. 6. Ditto, Nutmeggs, 2 oz, pd. 4. o. Ditto, black whole Peppar, 4 oz. o. 9. Mr. and Mrs. Custance with their 3. eldest Sons and Miss Custance their eldest Sister came to the Kings Head at Norwich about 11 o'clock this morning, we let them have our Room. The young Gentlemen are going directly for School to Palgrave. About 2. o'clock we set off for Weston. Paid at the Kings Head, for ourselves, Servant and Horses, two Nights, 2. 3. o. To Servants at the Kings-Head gave, 11. 6. To Frank my Barber, gave 1. 6. To other trifles at Norwich, gave o. 9. We got home safe and well (thank God) this A[fternoon] about half past five o'clock, our Horse was lame and therefore went very slow, and also it rained almost all

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the way, but our very large Umbrella kept us from the Rain. We had some beef-Stakes for Dinner about 6. and supped on Tea, and went to bed at 11.

July 30, Monday. . . . To Nancy for a new Sash gave 5. 0. During the time of dinner Mr. Jean[e]s in his new little Cart called on us and took a family Dinner with us. He had been to Mr. Townshends and Mr. Du Quesne. Mr. Jeanes left us after Tea about 7. o'clock. We had for Dinner Beans and Bacon, a blackbird Pudding, a Beef-Stake Pye cold and a Couple of rost Chickens and pickled Mushroom and black and red Currant Pies.

Aug. 1, Wednesday. I breakfasted, supped and slept at home, dined with Duke Humphrey, that is, no dinner at all. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. About 8 o'clock this morning I mounted my little Curriole and Briton with me, and sat off for Norwich, to attend at a meeting of the Clergy by desire of our new Bishop Dr. Charles Manners Sutton¹ to be held at 1 o'clock this Day in the Consistorial Court in the Cathedral. We got to Norwich about 10. I walked about the City till the meeting began. The City very full indeed being Assize Week. Lord Loughborough and Baron Hotham, Judges.² Very few Prisoners. Crown Bar Judge finished this morning very early. At 1 o'clock I walked to the Cathedral and there met and paid my respects to our New Bishop. There were present a great Number of Clergy indeed. The Bishop opened the business of the Meeting in a very handsome manner to his Clergy on his first calling them together, and then the design of the present

¹ See foot-note, p. 339, preceding.

² For Lord Loughborough see foot-note, pp. 146-7, vol. ii, and for Lord Hotham foot-note, p. 265, vol. ii.

meeting, which was, to address his Majesty on his late Proclamation, respecting seditious Publications, Meetings, &c. An Address was then read by the Bishop and unanimously approved and signed by all present. The meeting then broke up. Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Jeanes, Mr. Astley and Mr. Bell &c. I saw there. The Bishop was in a purple Coat and a short Cassock. Some of the Clergy in their Gowns but most without. After the Meeting I walked with Mr. Du Quesne to Nosworthys, then over the Castle-Hill, and then to John Priests where we rested ourselves. Mr. Du Quesne dined at Mrs. Chambers with Mr. and Mrs. Townshend. I eat a few Gingerbread Nutts, and drank some Porter, &c. pd. abt. 1. o. At Beales for Soals and Lobsters, pd. 2. 3. At half past 5. this Afternoon I got into my Curriole and got home about half past seven. Called at the Falcon at Cossey and had a Tankard of Porter to wash down the Dust p^d o. 4. We had the Soals for Supper, I was rather fatigued by this Days exercise, so very hot. At Nosworthys for some Venice Soap p^d, 1. o.

N.B. Recd. a Letter this Evening of Mr. Custance's Servant from the Treasurer of the Navy Henry Dundas Esq. who is also Secretary of State concerning Seamens Wages.¹

¹ An Act had been passed in this year (32 Geo. III, c. 34) for preventing frauds and abuses attending the payment of seamen's wages, and laying down rules as from Aug. 1, 1792, for facilitating the execution of seamen's wills. Under this Act various duties were laid upon the minister and churchwardens of a parish in the way of testifying to the identity of the executor if resident in their parish, for swearing him as such, and declaring the bona fides of witnesses. I must thank Mr. G. E. Manwaring, of the London Library, for helping me to track down the explanation of this somewhat obscure point.

Treasurer Dundas (1742-1811) was Treasurer of the Navy from 1782-1800, and subsequently First Lord, being created Viscount Melville. He

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Aug. 2, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. After breakfast about 9 o'clock I drove Nancy to Norwich to be at the Musical Meeting at the Cathedral, for the Benefit of the publick Hospital. We got to Norwich by 11 o'clock we went immediately to the Cathedral, I gave at the entrance of the Church, £. 1. 0 for the Charity, which is reckoned handsome but we were some time before we could get Seats, the Church being so exceedingly crowded. Nancy got a seat under the Orchestra and very little after I got a most excellent Seat along with the Stewards of the Charity. After Prayers, Our new Bishop gave us a very good Discourse on Charity, more particularly that for which we were assembled. His Text was from the 25. Matthew 35, 36 Verses 'I was a Stranger and ye took me in : Naked, and ye clothed me ; I was sick, and ye visited me.' We had very select and grand Pieces of sacred Musick from Handels Compositions before and after the Sermon. All together it was not only delightful but seemed heavenly and gave us Ideas of divine Musick. It finished about half past two o'clock. For Musick Books at Bacons, pd. 1. 0. We walked, immediately as it was over, to Nosworthys where we were showed a very good room above Stairs where we had some refreshment, some Mutton Stakes and a Cucumber, Porter and Port-Wine—all very cleaver. Nosworthy, when we were going away, on my asking him what we stood indebted to him said

was Pitt's closest political friend and right-hand man, and his impeachment in 1805-6 for alleged malversation while Treasurer of the Navy hastened Pitt to the grave. Lord Melville's trial for impeachment was the last held in Westminster Hall. He was acquitted, but Pitt died before knowing the result. (See the *Statutes at Large* for 32 Geo. III, c. 34, and for Dundas, Lord Rosebery's *Pitt*, pp. 250-1, and *passim*, and the *D.N.B.*)

only for the Port-Wine to be paid for, but I told him that would not do, therefore I desired or insisted on his taking, 7. 6 which after much intreaty he took. From thence we went to St. Giles's Gate, got into our Curriole about six o'clock and thank God ! arrived safe and well at home about eight o'clock, not so much fatigued as Yesterday but Nancy was pretty much tired and very hot. We called at the Falcon at Cossey on our return home and had a Tankard of Porter, pd. o. 4. We had delightful Weather and we spent a very pleasant day indeed upon the whole. We never went near the Priests, they never invite us on any public Doings whatever at Norwich. Briton went with us, our Horses at the Woolpocket. The Assizes finished this morning.

Aug. 3, Friday. . . . Dinner to day a Piece of boiled Beef and a Couple of Ducks rosted, and black-bird pudding. In the Evening we walked to Weston House and drank Coffee and Tea with Mrs. Custance. Mr. Custance not at home neither will he be some time being gone a Tour towards the W[est.] He went off on Monday last on horseback. Most delightful Weather (thanks to the Almighty for it) for all kinds of Grain.

Aug. 7, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Thorne made us a long-winded Call this Morn'. Mrs. Custance with her two eldest Daughters and her Son John drank Tea with us this Afternoon and stayed till near half past eight.

Aug. 11, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early to Norwich this morning after Coal &c. He returned not much before 8 o'clock this Evening—Very heavy Thunder Storms being about. We had a Tempest here about 3 o'clock this Afternoon. Very loud Thunder, but little Lightning. Thank God we rec'd no hurt from it. Nancy had 2 Letters, one from her Aunt Jⁿ W[oodforde] and

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the other from her Brother Sam¹ in Town who intends being here Wednesday next. All our Friends in the Country very well. Dinner to day, Giblett Soup. Beef Stake Pudding very good, also Beef-Stake Pye and a rost Duck. I privately named a Child of Beales this Morn' at my House, by name, Jeremiah.

Aug. 14, Tuesday. . . . Cary's People not being able to take our Butter we made a small Cheese for the first time. . . .

Aug. 15, Wednesday. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich this morning to meet Nancy's Brother Sam who mentioned that he should be at Norwich about 10 o'clock this Morn'. Nancy made a small Cheese this Morning after Somersett Method, bigger than that made Yesterday. Nancy's Brother Sam¹ arrived at Weston Parsonage about one o'clock this Afternoon in a Chaise from the King's Head, Norwich. He came to Norwich this Morning in the Mail Coach from London. He looked rather thin. Briton returned home with him. Mr. Sam. Woodforde dined, supped and slept here. We had for Dinner some fryed Soals, a neck of Mutton boiled, and a Couple of rost Ducks.

Aug. 16, Thursday. . . . Mr. Sam W breakfasted, dined &c. again here. My Nephew made me a present of two Pictures this Morning in Water-Colours, very well done. . . .¹

Aug. 18, Saturday. It rained all the day long, we could not get out. Dinner to day stewed Carp, a Couple of boiled Chicken and a Tongue, and part of a Rump of Beef rosted and Currant Pye. Nancy's Brother caught the Carp out of my Pond.

Aug. 20, Monday. . . . We all went to Mr. Du

¹ See foot-notes, p. 208, vol. i, and p. 138, vol. ii.

Quesnes this morning being fine, and spent an Hour with him. Nancy went with Briton in the Currie, and my Nephew and self walked thither, whilst we were at Mr. Du Quesnes, Mr. Townshend of Honingham Hall called there and was with us about half an Hour and very Chatty and merry. To poor Frank Clarkes Wife, gave o. i. o. Her Husband being in the Hospital at Norwich.

Aug. 23, Thursday. . . . I took a Walk with my Nephew this morning to Mr. Townshends at Honingham Hall, spent an Hour with him, Mrs. Townshend and Mrs. Cornwallis and returned home to dinner. Mr. Townshend behaved very polite and civil to us, pressed us much to dine, but we could not. . . .

Aug. 26, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church, none from Weston House at Church it being very wet. Neither Nancy or Brother. Dinner to day, boiled Rabbit, Surloin of Beef rosted and a long Currant Pudding. Weston Singers sung at Church for the first time. A very large Congregation at Church this Afternoon.

Aug. 29, Wednesday. . . . Nancy's Brother breakfasted, eat a Piece of rost Beef about 12, got into my Currie soon after and sat off for Norwich with Briton, to go for London this Afternoon in one of the Coaches. Gave my Nephew Sam^l Woodforde this morning a five Guinea Note on Kerrison's Bank at Norwich which he might change at Norwich for 5. 5. 0. Briton returned about 7 o'clock this Evening with the Currie, they got very safe and well to Norwich and at 4. o'clock this Afternoon my Nephew sat of in one of the Mail Coaches for London which gets to Town by 8 o'clock to Morrow Morn'. Rec^d for Butter last Week at 9^d, 1. 6.

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Sept. 1st, Saturday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a long morning Visit, he was on foot. He made us very uneasy by what he told us, which was, that they were going to leave Weston-House and reside at Bath in about a Month from this time, that their Children might be educated there, the Misses

Sep. 2, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance there. Dinner to day, boiled Calfs Head and Bacon, a Breast of Mutton rosted and Apple Pye. Mr. and Mrs. Townshend, Mrs. Cornwallis, and the two eldest Miss Townshends, Mr. Du Quesne, and Mr. and Mrs. Custance drank Coffee with us this Afternoon, stayed till near 9 o'clock. Mr. Custance made us a present of a brace of Partridges.

Sep. 8, Saturday. . . . We dined and spent the Afternoon at Mr. Jeane's at great Witchingham with him, his Wife, Colonel Lloyd, Miss Letitia Lloyd and Sister Eliza, Guy Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham, Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Copland, and St. John Priest. Nancy went and returned with Mr. Du Quesne. I went in my little Curriole and Briton with me. We got home by eight o'clock this Evening. We had for Dinner boiled and fryed Soals, three Chicken boiled and a Tongue, a very fine Haunch of Venison rosted, a brace of Partridges, and Trifle, alias floating Island &c. Desert great Plenty of Peaches, Nectarines Plumbs and Pears &c.

Sep. 9, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached and churched a Woman this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mr. and Mrs. Custance and S^r Edm^d Bacon at Church. Lady Bacon not at Church, her Daughter Maria, ill. Miss Woodforde also at Church being fine Weather. Weston Singers sung this After-

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noon and very well. I gave to Weston Singers towards Books 1. 1. 0. Dinner to day, rost Beef and an Apple Pudding. Poor old Mrs. Cary died about Noon, 81 Years old.

Sept. 11. . . . Largess to Bidewells Harvest-Men, gave 1. 0. Strongly reported at Norwich that the Queen of France had fell a Victim to the National Assembly.¹ Dinner to day, Giblet-Soup, and a Neck Mutton rosted.

Sep. 14, Friday. . . . Recd. a Letter from Mr. Rich^d Messiter, Attorney at Wincaunton in Somersett, desiring me to sign some Deeds respecting my late Brother Heighes's Estate given to Nancy and 2 eldest Brothers, their Sister Juliana dying before her Father, that the Deeds would soon be sent to Norwich. The Letter came by my Butchers Man who brought it from Mr. Press Custance, it is not paid for. Dinner to day boiled Tongue and Turnips, and a Couple of rost Chicken and french beans. Gave to Largesses to day, 2. 0. A very wet day indeed quite winterly.

Sep. 15, Saturday. . . . Had a Tub of Rum brought me this Evening.

Sep. 16, Sunday. . . . We were much agitated this Evening about what I had brought me Yesterday. Bad reports about the Parish.

Sep. 17, Monday. . . . I got up very early this Morning

¹ A false rumour, Marie Antoinette was not guillotined till Oct. 16, 1793. The origin, however, of the rumour is obvious: Paris had just passed through the orgy known as the September Massacres, when hundreds of priests and royalist sympathizers were murdered on the pretext that they could not safely be left alive while France was being invaded by the allies under Brunswick. Verdun had fallen on Sept. 2, and the way seemed open to Paris till Dumouriez turned the tide at Valmy on the 20th, and saved France. On Sept. 21 monarchy was formally abolished, and the Republic proclaimed on the following day. (See Acton, *French Revolution*, ch. xvi.)

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and was very busy all the Morn' in very necessary business.¹ Recd. for Butter this Morn' at 10^d, 3. 4. Dinner to day boiled Beef very salt indeed, very much out of sorts—much jaded, and had [no] Appetite. Mem. J^g Norton is supposed to have informed against his Neighbour Buck.

Sep. 18, Tuesday. . . . Had a very good night of Sleep last Night, thank God.

Sep. 24, Monday. . . . Very bad this morning, scarce able to walk at all. In every other respect thank God, very well, but my left foot so painful, that I am almost set fast. Mr. Priest sent me a note this morning and if agreeable, himself and Family would dine with us Wednesday or Thursday next; obliged to put it off. A Mr. De Hague from Norwich waited on me this morning with some Parchment-Deeds for me to sign sent from Mr. Messiters at Wincaunton, concerning my late Brother Heighes's Will, they were left for my Perusal, and if able to go to Norwich next Week and execute the same at Mr. De Hagues. Mrs. Custance made us a long morning Visit, and in the Evening Mr. and Mrs. Custance drank Tea with us. They taught us the new Game of Casseno on the Cards. Dinner to day rost Beef &c.

Sep. 25, Tuesday. . . . Rec^d an Invitation from Mr.

¹ Parson Woodforde was presumably busy in hiding, perhaps even burying, his smuggled rum. We share his anxiety for by clause xxii of 19 Geo. III, c. 69, he was liable to a forfeit of £10 for each offence of buying smuggled goods, while the village blacksmith, as supplier, was liable to a fine of £50. Moreover, the Act deliberately encouraged the odious practice of 'informing' because it provided that if the seller informed against the buyer within twenty days, and before any information had been laid against himself, he would be forgiven his own offence. Fortunately, as will be seen later (entry Oct. 12), Buck, the blacksmith, got off with a small fine, and Parson Woodforde resumes his secret purchases. See the *Statutes at Large*, 19 Geo. III, c. 69.

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Jeanes to partake of another Haunch of New-
Forest Venison. Was obliged to refuse being much
indisposed. . . .

Sep. 27, Thursday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne took Nancy with
him in his Chariot about Noon, to Mr. Jeans's
where she dined with a large party on a fine Haunch
of Venison. Colonel Lloyd and Wife and Miss Peggy
Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham with their
two Daughters Mary and Sally, Mr. Rich^d Lloyd, Mr.
Du Quesne, Mr. Burcham Sen^r and Nancy were the
Company that attended. Miss Woodforde did not
return home till after 9. o'clock.

Sep. 28, Friday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Custance are at
Scottow at Lady Durrants. They left Orders at
Weston-House to send us a brace of Partridges,
accordingly this Afternoon there was a brace sent—
but both old birds.

Sep. 29, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to
Norwich after a Pipe Q^r of Wine from Mr. Priests—
Port Wine—he carried 2 Coomb and 2 Bshls. of
Vetches to sell for me. Ben returned about 5 o'clock
this Afternoon with the Wine, all safe—He sold my
Vetches I think very well, rec^d of him for it 3. 6. 6.
Of Will^m Woodcock for a small Pig. rec^d, 6. 0. Dinner
to day, Calfs-Fry, Beef Stakes and Damson Pye. The
pain in my foot quite gone off and my great Shoe put
aside again.

Oct. 2, Tuesday. . . . Was up this morning a little after
6 o'clock and about half past 7. set off for Norwich in
my little Curriicle, and Briton with me. We got to
Norwich soon after 9 o'clock, went immediately to
Mr. De Hagues on Elm Hill, and about 12 o'clock
called at his Office in Guild-Hall, where I executed the
Deeds he left with me before him and a Mr. Simpson.

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Called at both the Priests and saw them all. To some netting Twine, 2 Knotts, p^d o. 2. 6. To 1. pair of strong Glass Salt-Cellars, p^d, o. 10. To Rum and Water &c. p^d o. 5. To Beale's, Fishmonger, p^d a Bill of, 6. o. We returned home to dinner about 5 o'clock. On my return home, recd. from my Maid Betty for a Cow, by name Beauty, sold Yesterday to one Dick Andrews, an old Dealer, 5. 5. o. Four of Mr. Custances Servant Maids at Norwich going this Afternoon in one of [the] London Coaches for Town and from thence immediately to Bath. Dinner to day Veal-Cutlets &c. Thank God, went and returned home safe and well to and from Norwich, with little or no fatigue.

Oct. 4, Thursday. . . . Took a Walk with Nancy this Morning to Weston-House to take leave of Mr. and Mrs. Custance and see the little folks before they set out for Bath, They go on Sunday next. We stayed an Hour with Mrs. Custance saw the 5. youngest Children. Mr. Custance was gone to Mr. Du Quesne's, but we met him on our return home, at the bottom of the Croft (alias Field adjoining to our Garden) he having been at our House enquiring after us. He was on horseback, and stopped and talked with us some time, and then parted, we wishing him Good Health and a safe Journey to Bath &c. Mrs. Custance looked very well indeed, altho' she has been fatigued in ordering matters relating to their removal. We wished her &c. Health &c. Knights and his Wife are the only People to be at Weston-House during their absence. Mr. Custance intends being at Weston in January or February next, but will make a short stay here. We shall most severely feel the Loss of such good and very friendly Neighbours and pray God bless them and theirs wherever they go and send them a safe

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Journey. Dinner to Day Skaite and Veal Collops &c.
Rec^d this Evening for Butter at 10^d o. 3. 4.

Oct. 6, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with three Hampers and 159. empty Bottles in them to be carried to Mr. Priest Sen^r in lieu of those sent by him to me with the last Cargo of Wine. Nancy sent by him two Letters, one to her Br^r William at Gallhampton and the other to her Br^r Sam^l at Sr Rich^d Hoares,¹ Stourhead, Wilts. Mr. Custance sent us this morning a fine Cock-Pheasant. Mrs. Custance also sent a large square Bottle of pickled Mushrooms, and a common Quart Bottle of preserved Gooseberries. Ben returned about 5 o'clock this Afternoon.

Octob. 7, Sunday. . . . Our very good and worthy Friends Mr. and Mrs. Custance with five of their Children with two Nurses and Rising the Butler, left Weston this morning about 10. o'clock and gone for Bath. They had their own Coach and four, and a Post-Chaise. As we were walking in the Garden at the time Nancy saw them at the opening in Church Street, I heard them very plain. Their own Horses carry them to Attleborough, and there the Horses return with their Servants the drivers back to Weston House. Pray God bless them and theirs, and may every thing turn out to their most sanguine wishes. It made us quite low all the whole Day. It is a great, very great loss to us indeed. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, churched a Woman and published Banns of Matrimony and read four Briefs. Weston Singers sung this Afternoon. Nancy walked to Church with me being fine Weather. Am very glad it was so good a Day for Mr. and Mrs. Custance &c. travelling. Dinner to day, boiled Neck of

¹ See foot-note, p. 210, vol. ii.

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Mutton and a very fine and tender Cock-Pheasant rosted.

Octob. 9, Tuesday. . . . Soon after breakfast I walked out a coursing with my People, and with 3 Greyhounds and 3 Spaniels, ran three Hares and killed two of them —the Hare that got off shewed the best Sport, being started on Ringland Brakes. Those that we killed shewed good Sport. We returned home before three o'clock. Gave to a Boy keeping Sheep on Ringland Brakes, that informed us there was a Hare lately seen by him on the same, and which we started and gave her a good sweating, tho' she got away, as she deserved, gave him o. 6. N.B. The first Day of my going out a coursing this Season, very great Sport.

Oct. 12, Friday. . . . Mr. Jeans made us a Morning Visit, eat a Fig or two, carried some to his Wife, but could not stay to dine with us, tho' asked so to do. Mr. Jeans informed us that he had heard it rumoured about, that there would be a great Mob collected at St. Faiths Fair on Wednesday next, on Account of the dearness of Wheat and other Provisions, but I believe rather from the late long propensity of the discontented to a general Disturbance, so prevalent at present in France. The Norwich Mob to meet the Country Mob on the above day at St. Faiths. John Buck, the blacksmith, who was lately informed against for having a Tub of Gin found in his House that was smuggled, by two Excise Officers, was pretty easy fined.¹ Dinner to day boiled Tongue and Turnips and a fine Couple of Ducks rosted.

¹ See foot-note, p. 373, preceding. John Norton, if he was, in fact, the informer, confined his 'information' to the proceedings of his neighbour Buck, and stopped short of giving away his Parson and hospitable entertainer at Tithe Audits.

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Oct. 13, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton this morning on horseback to Norwich after News &c. he returned home to dinner and brought me a Letter from my Niece Pounsett in which we heard of the Death of Lawyer White of Shepton-Mallett, an old Practitioner. Sister White, she mentions, has Symtons of y^e Gout. All our other friends tolerably well.

Oct. 15, Monday. . . . Nancy made use of some Rum, Honey and Oil, equal Quantity of each, this Evening, on her head to prevent the Hair falling off, which it has done very much of late, it rather makes her uneasy.

Oct. 17, Wednesday. . . . Betty went with her Father this morning to St. Faith's Fair, in a little Curridge. Bettys Father breakfasted with our Folks. Betty returned home about 5 o'clock but in the Rain, not very wet. No mob at all. Dinner to day Codfish and Oyster Sauce and a very fine Leg of Mutton rosted. The Pain in my left Heel almost gone this Even'.

Oct. 19, Friday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. Nancy breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. It being a very fine morning and the Arch-Deacons Visitation at Reepham to day, I drove Nancy this morning in my Curridge to Reepham, set her down at Mr. Priests where she dined with Mrs. Priest, Mrs. Jeanes, Miss Baldwin and 2. Miss Priests. We set out at 9. and got to Reepham by $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10. Put up the Curridge and Horse at Mr. Priests. I walked to the Kings Arms and from thence to Church with the Clergy, where Prayers were read by Mr. Priest and a very good constitutional Sermon preached by Dr. Grape of Horsted against the Seditious writings that have been and now are daily published by the

Dissenters, Atheists, and ill designing Men.¹ After Divine Service we returned to the Inn and there dined and spent the Afternoon. The Clergy that dined together were the Rev^d Mr. Astley who officiated as Arch-Deacon, Rev^d Dr. Grape, Rev^d Mr. Priest,

¹ ‘Seditious writings’, ‘ill designing men’, ‘levelling principles and equality’—these phrases in this entry and in that for Dec. 29 following, may be taken as referring mainly to Tom Paine (1737–1809) and his *Rights of Man*, Part II of which had appeared in Feb. of this year. This remarkable book, which sold by the ten thousand in all parts of England, contained ideas a number of which are now political commonplaces. Paine advocated, among political reforms, old age pensions at fifty, maternity benefit, education of the children of the poor, abolition of poor rates, employment for the casual poor in London (as the great centre of casual labour), a progressive income tax beginning at 3*d.* in the £ for incomes up to £500, and increasing to 20*s.* in the £ for incomes of £23,000 and over, drastic reduction of the cost of armaments, &c. He urged the abolition of monarchy and the House of Lords, and the substitution of a republic based on representative institutions; he adumbrated (in Part I) a League of Nations, and thereby the abolition of war. The book is written in trenchant, clear, and persuasive style, but, unfortunately, was based on some wholly fallacious assumptions. (1) It assumed that nations are composed of persons all eminently prosaic, sensible, and pacific; (2) that monarchy was or would quickly become unpopular in England, whereas, in fact, George III was little less than a national idol; (3) that the French Revolution had made possible the millennium, and that Frenchmen, henceforth, would turn their swords into ploughshares; (4) that a revolution in England could be accomplished without violence, despite the painful experiences of France, soon to become itself, and to turn all Europe into a field of blood; (5) that far-reaching social reforms could be effected by writing brilliant pamphlets. Having regard to the time and circumstances in which it appeared it was not unreasonable to view the book as, in some parts, seditious (it was deliberately offensive to the king), and in others ‘levelling’. On the other hand, Paine was no socialist. He profoundly distrusted government, and thought the less there was of it the better, and he believed in private property. (See *Rights of Man*, Part II, *passim*).

In France Paine was fully appreciated, and he was elected (though he could speak not a word of French) in no less than four places for the National Convention which was elected in Sept. 1792, the period of the first considerable massacres (Acton, *French Revolution*, p. 249).

Rev^d Mr. Whitmell, Rev^d Mr. Carr, Rev^d Mr. Bulwer, Rev^d Mr. Jeans, Rev^d Mr. Sandiford, Rev^d Mr. Addison, Rev^d Mr. Stouton, Rev^d Mr. Maynard, Rev^d Mr. Woodforde. Mr. Morphew, Notary, and his Clerk Mr. Stouton dined also with us—Ordinary and ext. p^d o. 3. o. We had a very good Dinner, Cod's Head and Shoulders, Surloin of Beef rosted, boiled Leg of Mutton and Caper Sauce, Pigeon Pye, Plumb and plain Puddings boiled, Bullace and Apple Pies, a rost Goose and a Couple of rost Ducks. Desert, Grapes, Apples and Walnuts. Soon after Dinner a Subscription for the French Clergy lately drove out of their Country by the present Anarchical Government in France, was proposed and set on foot by Mr. Astley, who subscribed, 2 Guineas, Dr. Grape 1 Guinea,

	£ s. d.		£. s. d.
Mr. Whitmill	1. 1. 0	Mr. Carr	1. 1. 0
Mr. Bulwer	2. 2. 0	Mr. Sandiford	1. 1. 0
Mr. Addison	0. 10. 6	Mr. Jeans	2. 2. 0
Mr. Stouton	2. 2. 0	Mr. Maynard	0. 5. 0
Mr. Priest	1. 1. 0	Mr. Woodforde	2. 2. 0 ¹

¹ After the deposition of Louis XVI (Aug. 10, 1792), and the following Sept. massacres, large numbers of French refugees landed at Eastbourne, and elsewhere on the south coast. The greater number of the fugitives were dispossessed and exiled non-juring French clergy. The authorities at the various sea-port towns were at their wits' end to know how to provide for these penniless refugees—no less than 3,772 landed in Sept.—and subscription lists were started by charitable persons. George III offered accommodation at the royal house at Winchester for an over-plus of refugees who had landed at Portsmouth. Some of these poor creatures on arrival had been maintained on two pence a day. Numbers of them found their way to London. ‘The streets of London swarm with them’; says the *Annual Register* (Chronicle, Sept. 1792, p. 36) ‘and, as many of them are in absolute distress, subscriptions have been opened by our benevolent countrymen for their relief.’ Again in Oct. the *Annual Register*, after recording the number of refugees in Sept. (as given above), states that the subscriptions ‘for the relief of the suffering clergy of

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About 4. o'clock in the Afternoon Mr. Jeans and self walked down to Mr. Priests, and there I took up Nancy into my Curriicle, and Mr. Jeans took up Mrs. Jeans and Daughter into his Curriicle and returned to our respective homes. We were very little more than an Hour and a qr. in returning home, and thank God safe and well. Tho' it was fair and dry, yet we found the Air very cold. Rec'd this Evening for 3. Pints of Butter at 11^d, 2. 9.

Oct. 20, Saturday. . . . To my Blacksmith Jⁿ Buck, my annual Bill for divers little matters done for me p^d him 1. 13. 3.

Oct. 22, Monday. . . . Had a Tub of Gin this Evening.¹

Oct. 23, Tuesday. . . . Did not get up till 9 o'clock this morning, then bottled off my Gin rec'd last Night, and soon after breakfast dressed and sat off in my little Curriicle for Norwich at 11. o'clock got there before one—went to Mr. Priest's Sen^r paid him a Bill for Wine &c. the Sum of 13. 0. 6. Then went to Miss Brownes and paid a Bill for Nancy, for which she gave me Cash 2. 15. 6. For Oysters and Porter at Norwich,

France, amount to upwards of £15,000'. Bishop Horsley, preaching before the House of Lords on Jan. 30, 1793, nobly said: 'Scruples about external forms, and differences of opinion upon controvertible points, cannot but take place among the best Christians, and dissolve not the fraternal tie; none, indeed, at this season are more entitled to our offices of love than those with whom the difference is wide in points of doctrine, discipline, and external rites—those venerable exiles, the prelates and clergy of the fallen Church of France, endeared to us by the edifying example they exhibit of patient suffering for conscience's sake.' Certainly among Parson Woodforde's numberless acts of charity there is none more creditable to him than his subscription of £2 2s. (equivalent to, perhaps, £8 or £10 to-day) towards the relief of the exiled priests of France. (See Holland Rose's *William Pitt and the Great War*, p. 63; the *Annual Register* as cited above; and Abbey and Overton's *The English Church in the Eighteenth Century*, p. 154, ed. 1896.)

¹ See foot-note, p. 373, preceding.

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p^d o. 3. To 100 of Walnuts p^d, 1. o. To Bury Pears at 3. a penny p^d 1. o. To 3 Dozen of Waistcoat Buttons, pd, 1. 6. To 5 lb $\frac{1}{2}$ of Gloucester Cheese at 6^d, pd. 2. 9. To Frank, my Barber, at the Kings-Head for his Master D. Callington for a new Wigg had some little time back, p^d 1. 1. o. Gave Frank for himself 1. o. Saw Mr. Du Quesne at Mr. Priests, he was going to dine with Mr. and Mrs. Townshend at the Deanery at Norwich, Dr. Turners. For Herrings at Beale's—18—p^d o. 6. Got safe and well home (thank God) about 5 o'clock this Afternoon, and then made tho' late, a very good dinner on Pork Stakes. A most delightful Day we had indeed. Nancy having a Cold could not go with me. Briton only went with me in the Curriole. Paid Nancy for Cash borrowed of her, 10. 6. To Will. Large's Wife who brought me a Leveret, gave, 1^s/o^d. Had a Tub of Brandy and a Tub of Rum brought this Evening. Gave one of the Men that brought it 1/o.

Oct. 24, Wednesday. . . . Very busy between 8 and 10 o'clock this Morn in bottling off Brandy and Rum. . . .

Oct. 25, Thursday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne called here about 2 o'clock in his way to Mr. Priests at Reepham, being so late he did not get out of his Carriage, he brought a Letter for Nancy from Mrs. Custance at Bath inclosed in one to Mrs. Townshend from Mrs. C. They all got to Bath very safe and well on the Thursday after they left Weston-House. Mrs. Custance writes in high Spirits. Bath seems to do her much good respecting health. Dinner to day boiled Skaite, boiled Chicken and Oyster Sauce and Shoulder Mutton rosted.

Oct. 27, Saturday. . . . To a Man of Bargewell (by name

Brighton whose Father and Mother lately kept the Bell Inn at Billingford) who escaped this Morning out of Bargewell's Poor House being hardly kept alive there, the Allowance so very short, the House being farmed out at 1^s/6^d, per Week for each poor Person—I gave him as he appeared to be a very civil spoken Man and as one that once knew better days o. i. o. He was going for London he said to his Wife who is a Housekeeper to some Person in Town.¹

¹ Parson Woodforde in this entry may mean a workhouse, or house of industry rather than a poorhouse, as we take it that Brighton was able-bodied, and not old, sick, or infirm. But the confusion between workhouses and poorhouses (meaning by the latter, strictly, places for the old and sick, and destitute women and children) in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries is inextricable, and quite possibly some poorhouses had able-bodied poor in them. A large number of parishes had poorhouses in the limited sense above, but only a combination of parishes (facilitated by Gilbert's Act of 1782) could afford workhouses. As the eighteenth century wore on, and specially after 1795, the adoption of outdoor relief 'stopped', says Dr. Clapham, 'the creation of new workhouses and tended to change the character of the old'. When the Poor Law Commissioners reported in 1834 the state of the workhouses and poorhouses had become, for the most part, intolerable. Able-bodied, and sick and old, men and women and children, and idiots, were promiscuously to be found in them. Anarchy, vice, idleness, pauperization, and sheer misery, such is the picture drawn by the Commissioners. Farming out, i.e. leaving the house to the tender mercies of a contractor, was common when the Commissioners reported, and the present entry of Parson Woodforde throws light on what it meant in 1792. On the other hand, 1s. 6d. a week in 1792 is not in unfavourable comparison with 2s. a week in the 1820's, and 2s. per head says Dr. Clapham 'was about the least on which a family of four or five could subsist, at the absolute minimum standard of comfort during the 'twenties'. The very great difference in the value of money in 1792 and the present day must, of course, be remembered. For further light on this dark, but deeply interesting subject the reader should consult Dr. J. H. Clapham's just published *Economic History of Modern Britain (1820-1850)*, pp. 351-65; Cunningham's *Growth of English Industry and Commerce*, Part II, pp. 769-72; the Hammonds' *Village Labourer*, pp. 121-4; the *First Report of the Poor Law Commissioners, 1834*, pp. 170-1 and *passim*; and the poet Crabbe's description of a poorhouse in his

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Oct. 28, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston-Church, but a small Congregation. Dinner to day boiled Pork and a Hare rosted. I privately baptized this Evening at my House a Child of Henry Dunnells of Oldham-Green by name Elizabeth, born this very day about Noon. They are afraid the poor Infant cannot live being born with a large excrescence or Wen on the Nose just over the right Nostril, as big as full as a Pigeons Egg, and hangs so heavy on the right Nostril that it almost prevents its breathing in that Nostril. The little [Infant] is to be carried to Doctor Thornes to Morrow Morn'. I recommended that it may go there as soon as possible.

Oct. 29, Monday. . . . Paid Ben this Morn' for Brandy, Rum and Gin, the first at $10^s/0^d$ per Gallon, the second at $8^s/6^d$ and the third at $6^s/0^d$ —4 Gallons each, 4. 18. 0. . . .

Oct. 30, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after fish &c. having Company at dinner to day. Ben returned by 12. o'clock and brought home some nice Skaite and Some fresh Herrings. Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham with their two Daughters Mary and Sally, and Mr. Du Quesne dined and spent the Afternoon and stayed till after 8 in the Evening with us. Mr. and Mrs. Jeans were invited also, but did not come, Mr. Priest brought me a Note from him alledging something respecting a Law-Suit between him and Kiddall obliged him to omit dining with us to day. We had for Dinner to day boiled Skaite and fryed Herrings, Ham and three boiled Chicken a Surloin of Beef rosted, plumb Pudding, a Couple of

Village. Accounts by Parson Woodforde of a house of industry in 1781, and of a poorhouse in 1785 will be found in vol. i, p. 305, and vol. ii, p. 209 respectively of this Diary.

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rost Ducks and Damson Tarts &c. After Tea Cards— Nancy lost, 1^s/6^d. Mr. Priest went home with Mr. Du Quesne. Mrs. Priest and young Ladies went home.

Nov. 1, Thursday. . . . My right foot worse this morning than yesterday. Mr. Jeanes was here this morning before I was stirring, tho' was down Stairs before 8 o'clock. Soon after Mr. Priest from Mr. Du Quesnes came here on foot, and soon after him Mr. Priest's Chariot from Reepham with Miss Mary Priest in it, and with her Mrs. Jeans and her two Daughters Mary and Caroline with their Nurse Susan Harrison arrived at my House and they all breakfasted with us on Tea and Toast. Immediately after breakfast Mr. Jeans got on his Horse and went for Windham, where he gets into the London Expedition about 4. this Afternoon for London for a few days. Mr. Priest and Daughter went for Reepham soon after. Mrs. Jeans, two Daughters and Nurse were left at Weston Parsonage and there dined, supped and slept. Mrs. Jeans slept with Nancy in the best Chamber, with Miss Jeans on a Mattress on the floor of the same Room, and the youngest about 7. Months old with her Nurse, Susan Harrison in the Attic Story. We had for Dinner to day, some boiled Skaite, a Leg of Mutton rosted and Damson Tarts. For Supper one rosted Partridge &c. It is rather disagreeable to be so lame just at this time —but thank God ! it is no worse.

Nov. 2, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mrs. Jeans, two Daughters, and their Nurse breakfasted, dined, supped and slept here again. My right foot much worse this morning, can scarce walk at all upon it. I got up at 2 o'clock this morning being

much disturbed at the rattling of Doors and Windows by the Wind which was high in the Night, found them all shut, and got to bed again before 3. Mr. Du Quesne came here about half past two our Dinner on the Table and he dined and spent part of the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner some boiled Skaite, Loin of Pork boiled, a rost Chicken and Apple Pudding. Mr. Du Quesne left us about 5. o'clock. He brought us as a present the tail Part of a Cod. Towards the Afternoon (thank God) my foot was better.

Nov. 4, Sunday. . . . Mrs. Jeans with her two Daughters, Mary and Caroline, and Nurse, breakfasted, dined, supped and slept here again—Mary Jeans ill about ten o'clock at Night, vomited a good deal, after that had a small dose of Rhubarb and went to sleep. I read Prayers, Preached, churched a Woman and christned two Children this Aft. at Weston Ch. We did not dine till after Divine Service. Dinner to day, Giblet-Soup, a fine Fillet of Veal rosted, and a plumb Pudding. Thos Thurston acted for my old Clerk, J^s Smith, at Church this Afternoon, he being very bad. Gave old J^s Smith this Afternoon, 1. o. Weston Singers sung very well this Afternoon.

Nov. 5, Monday. . . . Mrs. Jeans and my Niece, in very bad colds. Fires every day and all day, in the Study, great Parlour and Chamber over the Parlour. The great Parlour our constant keeping-Room now.

Nov. 7. . . . My foot pure and easy this morning, but still I keep on my great easy Shoe. . . .

Nov. 9, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mrs. Jeans, her two Daughters and Nurse breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Weston Parsonage. At Noon put on my common Shoe on my right foot,

it being almost quite well and swelling gone. Mr. Du Quesne called here about one o'clock stayed about an Hour with us and then went home, as he came, on horseback, on old Fox. I asked him to dine with us, but there being no Moon, he could not. Dinner to day hash-Mutton and Suet Pudding—Mutton Stakes and a rost Goose &c. No tidings of Mr. Jeans as yet, how long they stay with us cannot tell, they only begged to be taken in for 3. or 4. Days and now it is more than a Week—The Children particularly the smallest very great trouble, continually a fire above Stairs, washing, &c. &c.

Nov. 10, Saturday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mrs. Jeans, her two Daughters and Nurse breakfasted, dined and spent part of the Afternoon here. As my Servant Lad, Billy Downing, was going to Lenewade Bridge after some flour for the House, he saw Mr. Jeans with a young Lady in a Post-Chaise, going to Witchingham, and the Chaise went thro' our Parish. Mr. Jeans asked him if his Wife was gone home, to which the Boy answered, no—however they went on for Witchingham Parsonage, and about 3 o'clock or rather after a Note came to Mrs. Jeans from Mr. Jeans with a Servant Boy and a little Cart to convey Mrs. Jeans and Children home. Accordingly as soon as they had dined, Mrs. Jeans with her two Children got into the Cart and went for Witchingham. The Nurse, Susannah Harrison was sent for afterwards by the same convenience, tho' rather dark when she went. I cannot say, but it was by no means genteel in Mr. Jeans to go thro' the Parish and not call. That they are gone, neither myself or Niece much lament—as the Children gave much unnecessary trouble, and

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Mrs. Jeanes too much affected. Sent Briton early to Norwich this morning in my little old Cart after News and many other things. Briton returned time enough to wait at dinner. He brought us some Whitings which we had for dinner, with boiled Beef, Beef-Stake Pye &c.

Nov. 12, Monday. . . . I took a Walk with Nancy this morning being very fine Weather to Weston-House, round by the new Road leading to Morton, walked over almost every Room in the House, and found every thing kept in very good Order by Knights and his Wife. They sleep not in the House but in a Room over the Coach-House. Their Son about 12. Years old sleeps by himself in Weston-House in a little bed in the Servants Hall. Knights Wife was very glad to see us up there.

Nov. 13, Tuesday. . . . I walked to Weston-Church and married Henry Briggs and Sarah Clarke by Banns this morning, rec'd only, o. 2. 6 having rec'd half a Crown before for the Banns. Mr. Jeans and his Wife made us a morning Visit in their little Curriole to thank us for late favours. They went from Weston to Mr. Du Quesne's. A most delightful Day for drying our Linnen—We having a great Quantity this time, 7 Weeks. The two last Weeks we were obliged to put it off. Dinner to day Pigs face and Greens and rost Neck Veal.

Nov. 15, Thursday. . . . Harry Dunnell bad in a violent cold and Cough. I sent him the Scragg End of a Neck of Mutton to make him some Broth.

Nov. 17, Saturday. . . . Sent a Letter to my Niece Pounsett by Billy Bidewells People, as did Nancy one to Bath to Mrs. Custance in Portland Place. Paid my Carpenter, Pyle, a small Bill of, 7. 6. this morning by

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my Maid Betty Dade. Very smart Frost this morning but very cheary. Ice near half an Inch thick, very cold also. Dinner to day boiled Beef &c. and hot Apple-Pye. Billy Bidewells People brought our News. No Letters from Town or Country. Affairs in France still continue in Confusion.¹

Nov. 18, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and churched a Woman this Afternoon at Weston Church. Returned the Money to the Woman for churching. Nancy was at Church being dry Weather to day. Weston-Singers sung very well this Afternoon. . . .

Nov. 20, Tuesday. . . . Had a young Sow Pig of Sr Edm^d Bacons breed brought me this Afternoon by order of Mr. Custance and by his Farming Man one Betts.

Nov. 24, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton with my little old Cart this morning to Norwich after News &c. &c. Briton returned about 4. o'clock this Aft. No Letters at all from any Person whatever. Dinner to day, Souce, Beef-Stakes, and rost Chicken. Revolution Clubs in Town and Country much talked of, and Riots daily expected to take place on that Account. The lower sort of People that have nothing to lose, being ripe for it.²

Nov. 25, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Gave my old Clerk

¹ This is apparently Parson Woodforde's euphemistic way of referring to the fact that the French revolutionary armies under Generals Dumouriez, Custine, and Montesquieu had in Oct. and early Nov. been everywhere victorious, had driven back the Allies, and had conquered Belgium, the Rhenish provinces, Savoy, and Nice. He is also probably referring to the struggle in the National Convention between the Girondins and the Jacobins on the question whether Louis XVI should be brought to trial. (See Acton, *French Revolution*, ch. xvi.)

² See foot-note to entry for Dec. 8 following.

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Js. Smith, being ill 1. o. Briton had leave to go and see his Aunt Pescod at Reepham, and to stay out all Night. . . .

Nov. 28, Wednesday. . . . Much talking about Mobs rising in many parts of the Kingdom especially in Norfolk and in Norwich, a great Number of Clubs about the County and City, who stile themselves Resolution-Men alias Revolution-Men. A great many rich People it is said back them. It was also rumoured that there was to be a meeting of the County Mobs this day at Norwich. That there were also great disturbances at present in London. Pray God! however we may have Peace.¹ Dinner to day boiled Beef &c. Sent poor Frank Clarke who continues still very bad, 2^s/o^d.

Nov. 29, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben round my Parish this morning to inform the Farmers of my Tithe Audit on Tuesday next. He got very full indeed of Liquor somewhere or another. The Horse got away from him and came home, leaving him in Peachmans Lane lying down, we got him home however about 5 o'clock. Bush and Peachman I believe helped him in liquor. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted &c.

Nov. 30, Friday. . . . Gave Harry Dunnell being ill, 2. 6 this morning at his own house. Mr. Peachman called here this morning to let Ben go out with my Greyhounds with him a few Hours a coursing, which I did. Ben had my Horse Rodney, he returned about 4. this Afternoon with a Hare for me the only one they killed or saw, and with that had little or no sport. . . .

Dec. 2, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church, a pretty full Congrega-

¹ See foot-note to entry for Dec. 8.

tion. Nancy was at Church, being very fine walking. The roads as dry almost as at Midsummer. Weston Singers sung very well this Afternoon. Mr. Foster at Lenewade Bridge sent us this Afternoon 2. Score of Colchester Oysters. Gave the Lad that brought them, o. i. o.

Dec. 4, Tuesday. . . . This being my Tithe-Audit-Day, the following People waited on me, paid me their dues, and dined, spent the Afternoon and Evening at my House and before 12. at Night were all gone to their respective Homes, after spending the whole of their time very harmoniously indeed and all parted very friendly—John Peachman, Stephen Andrews Jun^r, James Pegg, Thos Reynolds Jun^r, John Mann Jun^r, John Buck, Henry Case, Robert Rising, John Culley, Will^m Howlett, John Girling and Son, George Field, Barnard Dunnell and Robert Emeris, dined in the Parlour; Will^m Bidewell, John Norton, James Pratt, Jonas Silvey, John Baker, Hugh Bush, John Heavers, Thos Cary and Andrew Spraggs dined in the Kitchen, as did also Charles Hardy. My old Clerk James Smith dined in the Kitchen. We had for Dinner a fine Loin of Beef roasted, a large Piece of boiled Beef, boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, Salt Fish, a Couple of Rabbits boiled and Onion Sauce and plenty of plumb and plain Puddings. Wine, Punch, and very capital strong Beer to drink after. Three large Bowls of Punch, 4 Bottles of Wine, and unknown Quantity of strong Beer. Six Bottles of Rum, one Dozen of Lemons &c. They all went away well pleased and friendly. It was the most agreeable Audit I ever had. None were asked to drink Tea this time, as I thought improper so to do, to introduce all kinds of People to my Niece and having no other

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Woman with her, and I could not ask one without the whole. Rec^d in the whole for Tithe to day, 292. o. 6. Rec^d for Quit-Rents for Mrs. Francis for two Years to New-College, besides, 6. 9. o. Paid to Stephen-Andrews Jun^r for Carriage of two Chaldron of Coal from Norwich 12. o. Paid to Ditto, a Church Rate at 2^d, 2. 8. It was late before we got to bed.

Dec. 7, Friday. . . . Did not get up this Morning till near 11 o'clock as I did not go to bed till 4. this Morning on Account of the Wind from the N.W. being very high indeed, it rose soon after Nancy and the other folks went to bed; about 3. this Morn' it was alarmingly rough and then it soon abated. Nancy was alarmed with it after she was in bed and wished herself up, did not sleep till after 4. Dinner to day boiled Pork and a rost Chicken. A very calm Evening and very fair but very cold and a very sharp Frost.

Dec. 8, Saturday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Dinner to day Calfs-Fry and a rost Chicken. Our Newspapers brought by Bidewells People. Alarming Accounts on the Papers, Riots daily expected in many parts of the Kingdom, London &c. &c. A fresh Proclamation from the King on the present Affairs. The Tower of London putting in Order—Double Guard at the Tower and at the Bank ordered. Some People unknown sent to the Tower for high Treason. Meetings held in London by the Lord Mayor Aldermen and Magistrates, at Norwich the same. Militia ordered to be embodied the ensuing Week. Meeting of the Norfolk Magistrates on Tuesday next at Norwich. Norfolk Militia to meet on Monday next, One Division at Yarmouth, the other at Lynn. Every

appearance at present of troublesome times being at hand, and which chiefly are set on foot by the troubles in France. Pray God ! however prevent all bad designs against old England and may we enjoy Peace. Parliament meets on Thursday next.¹

¹ This entry and those for Nov. 24 and 28 preceding throw vivid light on the serious situation at this time. As the French Revolution followed its course it roused in England, on the one hand, the passionate hostility of Burke, and on the other, the eager sympathy of men so different as Fox, the youthful poet Wordsworth, the eminent scientist and divine Priestley, and the humble shoe-maker Hardy. Clubs and associations began to be formed all over the country, some of them to celebrate the anniversary of 1688, others to urge Parliamentary and social reform. Paine's *Rights of Man* in 1791-2 gave an immense impetus to these associations, and the pious celebration of 1688 and projects of Parliamentary reform were changing into republican and revolutionary aims. London, Norwich, and Manchester were prominent in the proselytizing ardour of their associations. Nor were these enthusiasts perturbed by the dreadful spectacle at Paris of the September Massacres. On the contrary five London, Manchester, and Norwich Associations, elated by the recent victories of the French armies over the Austrian and Prussian invaders, presented an enthusiastic address to the French Convention on Nov. 7, 1792. 'Dear Friends,' ran part of the message, 'you combat for the advantage of the human race. How well purchased will be, though at the expense of much blood, the glorious, the unprecedented privilege of saying "Mankind is free ! Tyrants and tyranny are no more ! Peace reigns on earth ! and this is the work of Frenchmen." ' The French were immensely gratified, 'The sentiments', replied the President of the Convention, 'of 5,000 Britons, devoted openly to the cause of mankind, exist, without doubt, in the hearts of all the freemen in England.' On Nov. 19 the French Convention by their famous decree promised assistance to all peoples struggling to be free. As the French Armies were at this date victorious from the coast of Belgium to the Mediterranean, and were threatening Holland (England's ally) the situation both inside and outside England was enough to cause the Government deep anxiety. There were disturbances at a number of towns. On Oct. 22 Sheffield boisterously celebrated Brunswick's retreat ; on Nov. 13 there was a riot at Dundee where a tree of Liberty was planted ; later in the month 'Levellers' attempted to plant a tree of Liberty on Kennington Common, but a regiment was rushed to the Common and no tree was planted. Noel, one of the French Agents in London, reported that the Tower might suffer the fate of the Bastille. Rumours

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Dec. 9, Sunday. . . . Mr. Girling told me this morning at Church that he rec'd a Letter Yesterday from Mr. Custance from Bath they are all very well and desired their kind remembrance. Mrs. Custance better than for some Years past.

Dec. 11, Tuesday. . . . Paid Palmer this Morning a Bill for Malt &c. for the last Year the Sum of 18. 18. 10. He occasioned my Anger to rise in giving me some trouble in getting half-pence to pay him the odd-pence, tho' so large a Bill. I could not behave to him with that Civility as I could wish on his leaving me, as he discovered by his Action so mean a Spirit. I sent my folks out a coursing this Morning and they brought home a fine Hare by breakfast. They went out again after breakfast but had no more diversion. I should have went but expected People. A Meeting of the Lord Lieutenant and all the Magistrates of the County this Day at Norwich. Pray God ! there may be no Riot, as the whole Country abounds with People much dissatisfied with the Taxes &c. &c. Dinner to day boiled Beef &c. Rec'd of Will^m Bidewell this morning for a Bull-Calf, 10 Days old, o. 10. 6.

Decem. 12, Wednesday. . . . the left side of my face very much swelled owing chiefly I think from a bad tooth. Sent poor Francis Clarke, still very bad, 2. o. Dinner to day Giblet-Soup and rost Beef &c. My old

were rife, and it was not possible to be sure whether the famous Birmingham daggers were really cold steel, or the invention of heated imagination. It was in these circumstances that the Government on Dec. 1 issued a Proclamation calling out the Militia, and special steps were taken to guard the Tower and the City. Parliament was summoned for Dec. 13, in order to vote an increase both of the army and navy. (See the *Annual Register, 1792* : Chronicle, pp. 40-5 and 70-5 ; Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vii, ch. xx, *passim* ; J. Holland Rose, *William Pitt and the Great War*, pp. 19-28 and 61-84.)

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Washerwoman, Mary Heavers, dined with our Folks in Kitchen, she is got quite old.

Decem. 14, Friday. . . . My face rather swelled more than Yesterday tho' not very painful. It is generally worse in the morning than at any other time of the Day. I am afraid it is some gouty matter lurking about me as my teeth are pretty easy tho' my Gums are rather painful and swelled. I applied flannel last night, but it did not seem to be one bit the better in the Morning. In every other respect (thank God) tolerable well. Mild open Weather with some Sun Shine. At 2. o'clock this Afternoon I walked to Church and buried Harrison's last Child an Infant Girl, by name Virtue Harley Harrison not quite one Year old, 10 Months only. Dinner to day fryed Beef and Potatoes and Hare rosted.

Dec. 15, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewells People brought our Newspapers. The Meeting at Norwich on Tuesday last was a very full one, almost all the Magistrates in the County attended, and very active measures taken to prevent any public disturbances from the different Societies or Clubs, respecting their late levelling behaviour. The Kings Speech in the House of Lords, a very long one, but very good one, much liked. Most parts of the Kingdom have had general Meetings respecting the present threatening and levelling Principles, and fully attended. And proper measures taken to prevent any bad consequences from the levelling doctrines, dispersed among the poorer sort of People, by seditious publications &c. of late so much spread abroad every where. Every thing carried on at Norwich at the above meeting without the least appearance of Riot or Disorder, and in other places the same, tho' it was rumoured about that

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it was the Intention of many riotously disposed People, to have a rising of them this Week at Norwich, thank God it did not.¹

Dec. 17, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. It is rumoured about that the King of France was beheaded and the Queen hung by the Mob of Paris one day last Week, wicked brutes—The french national Convention not preventing it, for the King was taken from amongst them. They had suffered four Years imprisonment and now sacrificed at last and for nothing. Pray God they may be eternally happy.²

¹ In the course of his speech to both Houses of Parliament on Dec. 13, 1792 (an admirable example of Pitt's style, for clearly the speech was drafted by him), the king referred to 'the seditious practices . . . which have of late been more openly renewed, and with increased activity. A spirit of tumult and disorder (the natural consequence of such practices) has shown itself in acts of riot and insurrection, which required the interposition of a military force in support of the civil magistrate. The industry employed to excite discontent on various pretexts, and in different parts of the kingdom, has appeared to proceed from a design to attempt the destruction of our happy constitution, and the subversion of all order and government; and this design has evidently been pursued in connection and concert with persons in foreign countries.' So far neutrality in continental affairs has been maintained, but the French efforts to excite disturbances in other countries 'and to pursue views of conquest and aggrandizement' are causing me serious uneasiness. I must therefore augment my naval and military forces for prevention and internal defence 'being persuaded that these exertions are necessary in the present state of affairs, and are best calculated both to maintain internal tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate conduct effectual for preserving the blessings of peace'. (See *Annual Register, 1792*, where the speech is given in full among the State Papers, pp. 167-9.)

It is melancholy to remember that this speech, with its forlorn hope for the preservation of peace, was made only six weeks before the great war which lasted with two brief intermissions—from 1793 to 1815.

² This was a false rumour as Parson Woodforde indicates in his entry for Dec. 21. During Nov. the National Convention debated whether Louis XVI should be brought to trial. On Nov. 20 an iron safe was found

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Dinner to day Cottage-Pye and Leg of Mutton rosted.
Washing Week.

Dec. 20, Thursday. . . . Paid to Ben this Morning for
divers things 1. 9. 8.

Gave to Ditto, Tithe-Audit Gift, 0. 1. 0.

Paid to Briton, for divers things, 0. 5. 9.

Gave to Ditto, Tithe-Audit Gift 0. 2. 6.

Paid to Betty, for divers things 0. 16. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Gave to Ditto, Tithe-Audit Gift 0. 2. 6.

Gave to my Maid, Winfred, ditto, 0. 2. 6.

Gave to Boy, Downing, ditto, 0. 1. 0.

I gave Betty the money to give to my Maid, Winfred
and my Boy Downing. Mr. Du Quesne and Mr.
Priest of Reepham took a family dinner with us, un-
expected. We had for Dinner, rost Beef &c. After
Tea we got to Whist at which, I won, 1 s /6 d which I
gave to Nancy. They left us about 8 o'clock. Mr.
Priest went home with Du Quesne.

Dec. 21, Friday. . . . Paid Charles Cary, Shoemaker,
this morning a Bill for the last Year for Shoes &c.,
1. 1. 11. This being St. Thomas Day, I gave to the
Poor of my Parish, 6 d to each family 1. 8. 0. Rec^d
this Evening for Butter at 11 d , 0. 3. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Dinner to
day boiled Beef &c. It was a false report about the
King and Queen of France as mentioned on Crouse's
last Norwich Paper. The King was to be tried at the
Bar of the national Convention (as they now stile

containing proofs of the complicity of Mirabeau and the king in projects
made long since, which had come to nothing, to prevent the Revolution
going to extreme lengths. Louis was already suspected of having en-
couraged the Brunswick invasion. On Dec. 3 it was resolved that the king
should be tried by the Convention for treason against the nation. On
Dec. 11 he was brought before his judges. On Jan. 18, 1793, he was
adjudged guilty, and on Jan. 21 he was executed. (See Acton's *French
Revolution*, ch. xvi.)

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themselves) on Tuesday last. I hope they will not take away his Life, after so much suffering.¹

Dec. 22, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Wheat, new Measure, to Mr. Bloome's, did not return till near six o'clock this Evening, the Axle-tree breaking of the Cart at Easton as he was going to Norwich, but Ben's applying to a Person of Easton by name Hammond a farmer, for a Cart or Waggon, he very readily lent him a Waggon to go on, which was exceeding kind of him indeed. My Cart was left in the road till Monday. Thank God! no Accident happened to either Man or Horse, Ben having some notice of it. Rec^d for my Wheat, only 10. o. o. The Barometer being very low down to 28—13 and Wind likely to be high, did not go to bed till a very late Hour near 2. in the Morning. Dinner to day boiled Beef and rost Chicken.

Dec. 23, Sunday. . . . I had been to bed about an Hour and no longer before the Wind suddenly rose to a very high degree, which made me get up again, and the Wind continuing very high till 8. o'clock did not go to bed at all again. I read Prayers and Preached this morning at Weston Church. The Wind still remaining very high and very cold, had but a very small Congregation. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted, &c. Having had no Sleep all last Night, I was quite jaded out this Afternoon and could not keep my eyes open but at times, tho' slept but very little. I was so tired out that I eat very little for dinner. Much Snow to day, wind rough, and very cold. The Wind being much abated at bed time I went to bed at our usual time.

¹ See preceding foot-note.

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Dec. 24, Monday. . . . Had but rather an indifferent Night of Sleep, being waked about 1. o'clock this morning by the Wind becoming very high about that time and lasted at times till 5 o'clock, got out of bed many times during that time, to look out of the Windows, but did not dress. After 5. the Wind abating, thought of taking some rest, but was soon after seized with the Cramp in both feet, which obliged me to get out of bed 2 or 3 times to put my Feet on the cold stone by the fire-place, about six o'clock got sleep and slept till 9 o'clock. Did not get up this Morning till after ten. By the little Sleep I had was much refreshed. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal rosted &c. Two Letters came to us to day brought by Barnard Dunnell from Morton, left there by a Carrier, and which should have been brought us on Saturday by Ben, but the Post-Master told him there was none for us. So that the Post-Master Watson was to blame. The Carrier charged 2^d for each Letter. One Letter was for me from my Niece Pounsett sealed with black, which at first alarmed me but on my opening the Letter found it was owing to the late Death of Mrs. Donne of Bath, who had left a Legacy of 100 Pound to her. In it was mentioned also the Death of the Countess Dowager of Ilchester,¹ and also the Death of old Mrs. Webb of Rownall, with whom we dined when last in the Country. The other was for Nancy from her Br^r Samuel now in London, nothing material in it.

Dec. 25, Tuesday. . . . This being Christmas Day I walked to Weston Church this morning and there read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament to 26. Communicants, myself included. Gave for an

¹ See foot-note, pp. 260-1, vol. ii.

Offering at the Altar o. 2. 6. Weston Singers sung the Christmas Anthem this Morning at Church and very well indeed. The following old Men dined at my House to day being Christmas Day. Thos Cary, Thos Carr, Christ. Dunnell, Nath. Heavers, John Peachman, and my Clerk Js. Smith. To each of whom, I gave after Dinner 1^s/o^d, 6. o. Dinner to Day, Surloin of Beef rosted and plumb Puddings. It pleased me much to see the old Folks so happy as they were.

Dec. 26, Wednesday. . . . To Tom Short, Wheelwrights Son, Xmas Gift 1. o.

To Js. Fisher, blacksmiths Man, ditto, 1. o.

To Js. Barrett, Malster Man, ditto, 1. o.

To Weston-Singers, for the first time, do. 5. o.

Dec. 27. . . . Ben carried my Maid Betty Dade this morning in my little old Cart to see her Friends at Mattishall and she is to spend the night there. Ben returned home to dinner. To Will^m Mason of Sparham who travels about with a Bell Harp at Christmas time, gave, 1. 6.

Dec. 29, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich this Morning after Newspapers &c. He went on horseback. Briton returned home to dinner, no Letters. Dinner to day, boiled Pork and a rost Goose. To my Miller's Man, Jⁿ Shorten, Xmas Gift, 1. o. Revolution Clubbs every where much suppressed and Constitutional Societies daily increasing all over the Kingdom. Levelling Principles and Equality almost discarded.¹

¹ The trial of Louis XVI, the determination of France (decree of Dec. 15) to treat Belgium 'according to the rigour of war and of conquest', and the strong measures taken by the Government roused the country. As Parson Woodforde says, Constitutional Societies increased daily, proffering their services against invaders from without and 'Levellers' within. Chauvelin, the French Envoy in London, regretfully wrote to his Govern-

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Dec. 31, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge called on me this Morning, and I paid him a Bill for Flour for the last Year, 3. 19. 6. Paid him also a Years Rent for College-Land due Michaelmas last, the Sum of 16. 0. 0. He brought us, as a present, a few red Herrings. John Piper and his Man, Thos^s Rudd, Gardners came to prune my Trees this Morning, and they breakfasted, dined, supped and slept here.

ment during Dec. that England was not ripe for revolution ; in a month the English had quite changed ; ‘merely through fear of convulsions dangerous to property, they have passed from admiration of us to hatred, and from the enthusiasm of liberty to the delirium of servitude.’ (See Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vii, pp. 103–5 and 122–4; J. Holland Rose, *William Pitt and the Great War*, pp. 84–7.)

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¹ For this Index I am indebted to Mrs. K. A. Patmore.

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